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SIXTEEN PAGES

TODAY IN Arab news

Maneuvers successful
The 11-day "Al-Deriyah" maneuvers conducted by some formations of the National Guard have proven successful. The mobilization maneuvers, concluded Tuesday night, produced "highly satisfactory" theoretical and practical results, officials said. — Page 2.

Israel to return Sinai
The Israeli cabinet Wednesday decided to return Sinai to Egypt as scheduled on April 25. Troops began evacuating extremist settlers opposing the evacuation. — Page 4.

Korean gun battle
North and South Korean troops fight a four-hour gun battle Wednesday across the demilitarized zone. The firing began after four North Korean soldiers were killed or injured while trying to defect to the South. — Page 9.

Sugar prices slump
The price of sugar is at its lowest for two and a half years and the countries that depend on sugar exports are bracing for an even greater slump. Sharp price falls are particularly harmful to countries in Africa, the Caribbean and Central America. — Page 10.

IMF suspends aid
The International Monetary Fund suspends loans due to about 15 countries because of their failure to carry out economic reforms. — Page 11.

Bullets begin with a bang
The Washington Bullets began their campaign in the National Basketball Association playoff series with a big bang beating the New Jersey Nets easily. The heroes of Bullets victory were Jeff Ruland and Rick Mahorn. — Page 12.

Italian Coalition crisis
Italian President Sandro Pertini makes a last-ditch effort to save the 10-month-old coalition government led by Premier Spadolini from collapse. — Page 16.

GCC calls for unity to counter Zionists

RIYADH, April 21 (SPA) — Arab ranks should be united and Zionist challenges facing the Arab world met with solidarity, according to a communique issued here Tuesday night at the end of a meeting of foreign ministers representing the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states. The foreign ministers voiced their unanimous support for this cause saying they would fully align the GCC behind such an effort.

The ministers expressed their appreciation of King Khaled's call for a complete work stoppage in the Islamic world as a sign of solidarity with the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories. The call, launched by the King, in his capacity as chairman of the current Islamic summit conference, to express the Islamic world's unanimous denunciation of the Zionists' desecration of

the holy shrines, was responded to in an admirable manner throughout the Islamic world.

The GCC communique said the ministerial council supported all efforts being used to put an end to the ongoing war between Iraq and Iran, stop the shedding of Muslim blood and safeguard the security and stability of the area. The council's next session will be held in Taif, May 19.

The council held its extraordinary session, the statement added, in view of the grave incidents and the important developments that occurred in the Arab world recently particularly the uprising on the West Bank and other occupied Arab territories. The statement pointed to the threat to peace and stability inherent in such events.

Chatti mission returns Iran rejects initiative for peaceful settlement

JEDDAH, April 21 (Agencies) — Iran has rejected the peace initiative offered by the Islamic Oodwill Committee during its recent visit to Tehran under Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Touré, the committee's chairman.

Habib Chatti, secretary-general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and member of the goodwill committee, said here Wednesday that the committee would continue to strive to bring about a peaceful settlement between Iran and Iraq. It is confident of finding an honorable solution acceptable to both parties, he added.

On the other hand, Iraq has reiterated that it would continue to cooperate with the goodwill committee for the sake of finding an equitable and peaceful settlement of the conflict. Chatti said the committee's talks with officials of the two countries were characterized by depth and analysis of the opportunities available for the restoration of peace

and elimination of obstacles now existing before the objective. He added that the course was still long.

Chatti and Guinean Foreign Minister Abdullah Toure returned here from Baghdad Wednesday after a brief visit to Iran and Iraq.

Early Wednesday, both Chatti and Toure met with Iraqi Deputy Premier Tareq Aziz in Baghdad and conveyed him the Iranian refusal. Aziz remarked that the latest stance of the Iranian regime was no surprise, as it has taken a stubborn attitude since the beginning (of the conflict) without any "legitimate justification."

He said Iran's behavior toward the goodwill committee was akin to its previous attitude toward the nonaligned committee and the U.N. secretary-general's representative, whose only aim was to strive to end the war and stabilize peace in the region.

As regards Iraqi withdrawal from the Iranian territory, Aziz said his country is quite prepared to withdraw from the Iranian territory which it had occupied as a preventive measure to protect the Iraqi towns from invasion.

Shattering ceasefire Israeli jets bomb Lebanon

BEIRUT, April 21 (SPA) — Scores of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians were killed and wounded following devastating Israeli raids Wednesday on large areas of Lebanon aiming at Palestinian refugee camps here and shattering the fragile ceasefire agreement worked out by the United States last year.

The massive Israeli air attacks on Palestinian commando positions devastated radar stations, arms depots and coastal bases. Syria said its air force intervened to stop

the assaults and conceded two Syrian jets and one Israeli warplane were hit in a dogfight over east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, where the Syrians maintain a string of Soviet-made SAM-6 missile batteries.

A communique issued by the Syrian Army Command in Damascus said Syrian jets were patrolling Lebanese skies well after the Israeli air assaults stopped at 4:30 p.m. local time (143 GMT).

The communique did not give the type of the downed planes. But the Voice of Leba-

non radio station claimed the downed Syrian jets were Soviet-made MiG-21s. The broadcast said two Syrian pilots bailed out safely and were taken to Al-Meiss Hospital near the Lebanese city of Zahle, in the Bekaa. The Voice of Lebanon also claimed Israeli jets rocketed the SAM-6 sites, but this could not be officially or independently verified.

The PLO in the meantime said Chairman Yasser Arafat convened the PLO's Supreme Military Council at his underground bunker in the Fakhani neighborhood in south Beirut as the planes struck in the wake of Israel's decision to withdraw from Egypt's Sinai desert on schedule next Sunday.



U.N. VOTE: The Security Council votes on the Arab-sponsored resolution deploring Israeli actions in occupied territories. The motion failed due to a veto by the United States.

Syria seeks Israeli ouster U.S. vetoes Arab move

UNITED NATIONS, April 21 (Agencies) — The United Nations General Assembly has started consideration of Palestine question soon after the United States Tuesday vetoed an Arab resolution in the Security Council condemning the Israeli aggression in the occupied Arab lands including the holy shrines in Jerusalem.

Syria called on the General Assembly to expel Israel from the world body while Palestine Liberation Organization blamed the United States and the Zionist enemy for blocking a political solution to the Palestinian issue.

Zehdi Labib Terzi, U.N. observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Noting that U.S. Ambassador Mrs. Jean Kirkpatrick had left the hall after casting the U.S. veto, Terzi told the council that the United States "has chosen to be in the minority of one, isolated from the rest of the world and a renegade."

The veto, he said, had rendered the Security Council "helpless and inefficient" and left the Palestinians in occupied territories with the option of resisting Israel by all means — "strikes, stone-throwing and even explosives."

The attack began at 2:30 p.m. (123 GMT) and continued for more than 90 minutes. Lebanon's Army Cmdr. Gen. Victor Khoury and the PLO said in separate statements Israeli helicopters patrolled an 80 kms stretch of the southern Lebanese coast from Beirut to Tyre as the jets went to action.

Khoury gave the statement to reporters as he entered the presidential palace in the pinewood neighborhood of Baabda eight kms east of Beirut to report on the raid to the government of President Elias Sarkis.

The government alerted Lebanon's United Nations Ambassador Ghassan Tuani to stand by to lodge a complaint against the raid with the U.N. Security Council.

The Voice of Lebanon also said the PLO positions at the Sabra and Fakhani neighborhoods in southern Beirut were struck by Israeli jets. But Arafat's office and the PLO-controlled Palestine news Agency Wafa denied that report. A PLO communique said commando positions at the southern town of Abul Aswad, near the port of Tyre, were bombed and strafed. But the bulk of the air attacks was borne by a cluster of PLO positions on the coast and in the hilly woods overlooking the Mediterranean around the fishing towns of Damour and Saadiyat and the inland village of Mazbouh.

U.K. rules out army action during parley on Falklands

LONDON, April 21 (AFP) — Foreign Secretary Francis Pym Wednesday ruled out any British military action over the Falklands crisis "as long as negotiations are in play."

He told the House of Commons that "any negotiation which is concluded satisfactorily must meet certain critical points, in particular the arrangements of the Argentine withdrawal, the nature of any interim administration of the islands and the framework for the negotiations of the long-term solution to the dispute."

Pym said he would discuss all these points Thursday in Washington with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. He said he would also be putting forward a "few British ideas" for a Falklands settlement.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had still not ruled out the use of force if negotiations break down. The original Argentine proposals hammered out by Haig in Buenos Aires were thought to provide for a joint British-Argentine administration and police force, and the flying of both national flags in the Falklands.

"What options do we have? We will persist with negotiations. I hope seriously that we do not go to war, but who knows," Mrs. Thatcher told British businessmen Tuesday night.

"We can't let this (Argentine invasion) go, otherwise what would happen to Gibraltar, Belize and to other similar places," she said.

On Wednesday, Mrs. Thatcher conferred with her "war cabinet" to finalize Britain's counter-proposals to Argentine's peace plan

for the disputed Falkland Islands.

As Mrs. Thatcher met senior ministers, the Defense Ministry said it was continuing to strengthen the military muscle of the British naval task force now approaching the Falklands. It said new sting-ray anti-submarine torpedoes were being introduced ahead of schedule and would be fitted to ships and aircraft in the task force.

A defense spokesman said the torpedoes were still undergoing acceptance trials, which had gone very well. Defense sources said the sophisticated computer-controlled high-speed torpedoes probably would be fitted to anti-submarine helicopters operating from the two aircraft carriers, *Invincible* and *Hermes*, and to long-range Nimrod reconnaissance planes.

Speculation increased in defense circles that a small force of destroyers may have been diverted from the main fleet to recapture the Falklands dependency of South Georgia, 800 miles east of the island chain.

Mrs. Thatcher did not reject the Argentine peace plan outright, telling parliament only that it fell short in some important respects. Political sources said sentiment was increasing inside the ruling Conservative Party for some compromise to avert war.

In Buenos Aires, Argentina's ruling military junta Wednesday repeated its desire for a peaceful solution to the Falkland Islands dispute and said it is willing to consider the wishes of the islanders and interests of the British government.

Crisis has blown over, OPEC says

VIENNA, April 21 (R) — OPEC President Mana said Al-Oteiba said Wednesday that the oil group's output has plunged to an estimated 15.85 million barrels daily, and a tighter market had ended any threat to the OPEC benchmark price.

Talk of cutting the producers' reference price of \$34 a barrel was now "a dream of the past" the United Arab Emirates oil minister told a news conference.

Dr. Oteiba also renewed threats that OPEC (the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) will blacklist oil companies that have been trying to force Nigeria and Ecuador to reduce their OPEC-governed prices by phasing out crude oil purchases from them. He was speaking after a one-day meeting in Vienna of OPEC's market monitoring committee of four ministers.

Earlier, OPEC oil ministers ended a single-day session with one minister predicting the oil cartel will stick to its \$34 per barrel benchmark price.

Despite reports speculating that the OPEC must abandon its benchmark, there are "significant signals" that the worst is past for the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Humberto Calderon Berti, the Venezuelan oil minister said. Calderon Berti said a firming of the spot oil market indicated that the worldwide oil glut has peaked, and that prices would stop their downward trend.

Because of the tightening spot market and other signs, Calderon Berti predicted that some non-OPEC producers "will need to increase their prices." Calderon Berti made his remarks after a four-hour closed-door session of OPEC's monitoring committee, which is led by OPEC Chairman Mana Said Al-Oteiba and includes the ministers of Algeria and Indonesia.

The committee heard expert reports on the market one month after OPEC fired a reduced output ceiling for its 13 members of 17.5 million barrels daily in an attempt to defend its reference "We had a very good meeting," Calderon Berti told reporters. "The market is recovering. Spot prices are better than a month ago. I think the decisions we took a month ago were correct and are having an effect."

Calderon Berti said OPEC output had in fact dropped below the reduced ceiling. As far as the committee knew no members were exceeding their individually-assigned quotas within the total and some, including Libya, Iraq and Ecuador, were producing below these levels.

The American veto drew immediate angry reactions from Arab delegates, including

Visit marks new era, Indira says

NEW DELHI, April 21 (Agencies) — India's Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi has said her visit to Saudi Arabia marked a new era in Indo-Saudi Arabian relations.

On arrival here Tuesday night, Mrs. Gandhi described her talks with the Kingdom's leaders as "useful, valuable and interesting." She praised the "enlightened leadership" of the Kingdom and its "merited position" in the world. "I am impressed by the achievements of Saudi Arabia in various fields," she said.

Mrs. Gandhi confirmed that Pakistan's acquisition of modern armaments had been discussed with Saudi Arabian leaders. She had voiced concern that the regional security environment is aggravated by the arming of Pakistan. She said she and the Kingdom's leaders agreed on the need for a peaceful atmosphere between India and Pakistan. She ruled out the possibility of any third country using its good offices for improved Indian relations with Pakistan. "It is not proper," she answered, adding that India and Pakistan had to settle their problems between themselves. In any case, she said, she had not taken up the matter with Saudi Arabian leaders.

She added that there was vast scope for economic cooperation between India and Saudi Arabia. A joint economic commission to be set up will meet in New Delhi for the first time in October, Mrs. Gandhi said.

A school for Palestinian orphans in Mazbouh, 29 kms southeast of Beirut, suffered a direct rocket hit during the raids, the PLO said. There was no immediate casualty count.

UNIFIL spokesman Timor Gocksel said a bomb hit the Sabra refugee camp in the center of Beirut, at 2:50 p.m. The same camp was bombed by Israel in July. Three squadrons of four planes each were attacking and drawing Palestinian anti-aircraft fire. Israeli planes made low-altitude passes over Beirut at 3:30 p.m. (1330 GMT).

Palls of smoke billowed from the strike targets south of Beirut. The Voice of Lebanon said the raiding planes dropped decoy balloons to lure the Palestinians' heat-seeking SAM-7 missiles away from the jets.

The PLO said 60 F-15 and F-16 planes took part in Wednesday's "criminal aggression," but the state radio said 20 planes mounted the assaults. Hazy skies over Beirut obscured many of the planes as the thud of heavy explosions echoed through the capital when the planes struck near the city's southern flank. The wail of air raid and ambulance sirens resounded through the streets as some shopkeepers hastily shuttered their windows in west Beirut's downtown area, only to reopen half an hour later.

Khaled receives Indonesia official

RIYADH, April 21 (SPA) — King Khaled received Indonesian Defense Minister Gen. Muhammad Yusuf at the royal office here Wednesday morning.

The audience was attended by Crown Prince Fahd and Prince Sultan, minister of defense and aviation.

Gen. Yusuf presented an Indonesian armed forces sword as a souvenir to the monarch.

Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal received Pierre Harville, the special emissary of King Baudouin I of Belgium, at his office here Wednesday. Both discussed bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest.

Earlier in the morning, Prince Saud met with Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi, who later left for Madinah within the context of his current visit to the Kingdom.

U.S. blames Soviets for arms race

WASHINGTON, April 21 (AP) — Vice President George Bush Wednesday accused the Soviet Union of spurring repeated attempts to stop the atomic weapons race and insisted the United States "has nothing to apologize for in its efforts to bring this nuclear race under control."

Trying to put Moscow on the defensive in the propaganda battle over nuclear weapons, Bush said the Kremlin has a "historic record of poor cooperation in reducing the nuclear threat," beginning with its rejection of a plan presented at the United Nations in 1946 for international control of atomic bombs.

In the 1950s, Bush said, President Dwight Eisenhower unsuccessfully tried to sell Russia numerous proposals to control nuclear weapons and divert atomic use to peaceful purposes. "Eisenhower was not alone in his frustration," Bush said in a speech. "Every American president since has heard the resounding Soviet 'yes' to U.S. appeals to control the growth of nuclear arsenals."

Bush's speech, before a national public radio audience, coincided with the fourth day of Ground Zero Week, a nationwide campaign of speeches and demonstrations organized by a Washington-based anti-nuclear lobby.

The vice president said the Reagan administration welcomed a national debate on arms control and the emergence of a nuclear freeze as part of that discussion. "Not freezing, but reducing nuclear weapons is one of the administration's highest priorities," Bush said.

In rejecting a freeze, Bush said the United States first must increase its nuclear arsenal to attain "parity with the Soviet Union, so that any negotiated freeze will not result in a U.S. or Western European disadvantage."

"Some, of course, argue that any increase of U.S. nuclear weapons or delivery systems will only motivate the Soviets to produce more and more of their own weapons and delivery systems," he said. "I don't accept that." Over the past 35 years, Bush said, the Soviet Union has moved steadily toward superiority in conventional forces and a nuclear force advantage "in some important areas" over the United States and its European allies.

"During the past decade the United States has reduced the number of nuclear weapons based in Western Europe," he said. "In fact, our nation's nuclear stockpile is at its lowest level in 20 years."

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Abdullah affirms maneuvers' success

RIYADH, April 21 (SPA) — Second Deputy Premier and Commander of the National Guard affirmed Wednesday that "Al-Deriyah" maneuvers carried out by formations of the National Guard were successful. He expressed complete satisfaction with the theoretical and practical results of the maneuvers.

Prince Abdullah watched Tuesday night the second phase of the mobilization maneuvers by the Mohammad Ibn Saud Mechanized Brigade. He gave the go ahead for a mock night attack to which heavy artillery, rockets and anti-aircraft weapons, as well as hows, heavy and medium machine guns

were used.

At the end of the exercises, the prince commended the commander of the brigade and troop leaders and congratulate them on their outstanding performance. Earlier, Prince Abdullah inspected the third regiment which also made an extraordinary performance. A prize was given to its leader by Prince Abdullah. He then inspected other units as well as the supply regiment. Later in the evening, he attended a ceremony given in his honor.

The maneuvers lasted 11 days.

Meanwhile, Prince Abdullah attended Wednesday a graduation ceremony for the first supply group of the National Guard and also an artillery group. Later on, he visited the Saqr Al-Jazirah field hospital where he toured its divisions.

Prince Abdullah pointed out the progress achieved by the Guard's sectors. "They have gone a long way in military sciences, study and application. However, our ambitions are to make the National Guard an effective force, in line with the other divisions of the Armed Forces," Prince Abdullah said.

BRIEFS

Sultan to chair graduation of naval students

DAMMAM, April 21 (SPA) — Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan will attend a graduation ceremony at the Naval Technical Studies Institute here next Sunday.

Meanwhile, Indonesian Defense Minister Gen. Muhammad Yusuf visited Wednesday several military installations after holding talks with Prince Sultan Tuesday night. Discussion centered on means of consolidating cooperation between the two countries. He arrived to Riyadh Tuesday on a few-day official visit.

The graduates will include the second and third classes who will be conferred the rank of sergeant, after having qualified from the departments of electricity, electronics, mechanics, marine arts, supply and administration.

On Monday, Prince Sultan will preside over another graduation function to be held for the institute's 30th and 31st groups who have completed their technical training at King Abdul Aziz Air Base in Dhahran.

MADINAH, (SPA) — Prince Abdullah, the brother of King Hassan II of Morocco, arrived here Tuesday night to visit the Prophet's Mosque. He was met at the airport by Deputy Governor of Madinah Sheikh Saad Al-Nasser Al-Sudairi, Commander of Madinah Region Maj. Gen. Muhammad Al-Kharboush, and other officials.

DAMMAM, (SPA) — Eastern Province Governor Prince Abdul Mohsen ibn Jiluwi presided over a meeting of the province's Water and Sewage Department board here Wednesday. The meeting, attended by the department director general, Abdullah Babtain, discussed projects and services being implemented by the department and its achievements during the past year.

RIYADH (SPA) — Industry and Electricity Minister Dr. Ghazi Algosabi met with Habib Ahmad Qassem, Bahraini commerce and agriculture minister, and his delegation here Wednesday. They discussed cooperation between the two countries in economic fields.

DAMMAM (SPA) — Sheikh Saad Al-Musajil, president of the Eastern Province chamber of commerce and industry, held a meeting with an Indian trade delegation here Wednesday. The delegation, which arrived in

Dhahran Tuesday for a two-day visit of the province, held talks with businessmen and shipping agents on ways of boosting trade cooperation between Saudi Arabia and India.

RIYADH, (SPA) — The Arab Gulf States Educational Bureau has recommended holding three meetings in Muscat, Oman, beginning May 5 to discuss integration of university education in member states and other issues, including the Gulf university project. The three meetings are to be held by the bureau's higher education council, executive board and the institutional assembly of the Gulf university.

JEDDAH — The Faisaliyah Women Welfare Society will organize a folklore program beginning April 27. The program includes shows from different areas of the Kingdom and a variety of typical local dishes. The first day will be for men only while two other days will be for ladies.

RIYADH, (SPA) — Riyadh's Vocational Training Institute celebrated Wednesday the graduation of 87 trainees from its electricity and car mechanics departments. Abdul Razzaq Al-Khayyat, the center's director, said that 47 classes have graduated from the car mechanics department, of which Wednesday's is the last with 34 trainees.

Saudi Arabia, Spain consider health accord

RIYADH, April 21 (SPA) — Saudi Arabia and Spain discussed here Wednesday the possibility of concluding a health cooperation agreement under which Spain will provide medical expertise. The talks were held between Health Minister Dr. Hussein Al-Jazairi and his Spanish counterpart, Manuel Nunez, currently visiting the Kingdom.

The Spanish minister said after the meeting that the two sides explored possible ways of cooperation in the sphere of health. He added that Spanish "doctors and technical assistants are ready to come to the Kingdom to work in hospitals within the framework of mutual cooperation."

On the other hand, Jazairi expressed the hope that a health accord will be signed during the Spanish minister's visit to the Kingdom. He said Spain has advanced health centers in all medical specializations, especially in ophthalmology, and added that the Kingdom would benefit from the Spanish expertise in this field once the agreement has been signed.

Jazairi said he also discussed with his the Spanish minister the subject of signing contracts with Spanish specialists to work in the three new hospitals recently built in Tabuk, Hail and Najran.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Mustafa Tayba, director general of curative medicine at the health ministry. The Spanish side included the Spanish Health Ministry's undersecretary and Ambassador Manuel Sasot to Saudi Arabia.

The Spanish minister, who arrived here earlier in the day on a two-day visit, was met at the airport by Dr. Hamad Al-Suqair, health undersecretary; the Spanish ambassador; and several health ministry officials.

Talal meets European delegation

RIYADH, April 21 (SPA) — Prince Talal, special envoy of the UNICEF and head of the Arab Gulf program for the U.N. development organizations (AGFUND), met here Tuesday night with a delegation of UNICEF committees in Europe.

The meeting, which was attended by UNICEF's representative in Saudi Arabia, Salah Aflawis discussed coordinating efforts to support the organization and assistance provided by the Gulf fund for the children of the world, especially in developing countries.

The delegation arrived here Monday on a four-day visit to the Kingdom. It includes personalities from France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Britain and Greece as well as representatives of UNICEF's offices in Geneva, New York, Dacca and Beirut.

Later on Prince Talal opened at King Saud University here an exhibition of pictures and toys organized by the UNICEF. He said the

exhibition aims at highlighting educational and psychological aspects of children's education which develop their mental and physical capacities. He appealed to the world to give more care to children who represent the future.

Prince Talal added that in the short period which elapsed since its establishment, AGFUND has already financed 14 children welfare projects in developing countries, besides other projects to combat diseases in 29 countries. Another four projects were co-financed by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in four countries, and one, for Africa, by the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO). Four other projects are carried out by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) with AGFUND assistance, he said.

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Israel decides to return Sinai as scheduled

TEL AVIV, April 21 (Agencies) — Israel gave final approval Wednesday for the handover of Sinai to Egypt Sunday and ordered its troops to evict thousands of Jewish extremists trying to stop the operation.

Last-minute doubts about the handover were cleared when a special cabinet meeting decided unanimously to complete the Sinai withdrawal on schedule. An official statement said the government has received the assurances sought from Egypt and the United States and called on Israelis to pull out peacefully.

The desert territory, occupied by Israel, has already been evacuated by most Jewish settlers and soldiers. But an estimated 2,000 extremists, some of them armed, were vowing to stage a last stand against the withdrawal in the north Sinai township of Yamit. Extra troops moved in Wednesday and the Israeli commander voiced fears that the eviction operation could be violent.

Under the Camp David treaty, Israel has already returned two-thirds of the Sinai peninsula to Egyptian rule. For the past 10 days, Israel has kept Cairo and Washington in

suspense over whether it would honor the commitment to hand back the remaining portion on time.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin suddenly complained of Egyptian peace treaty violations. Wednesday's statement said Cairo was rectifying the violations and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had promised to take measures to stop alleged weapon smuggling to Palestinians.

It also said Mubarak had reiterated that Egypt would continue negotiations with Israel and the United States on Palestinian autonomy "until we reach agreement." U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Walter Stoessel, who has been mediating between Cairo and Tel Aviv for the past week, had a final meeting with Begin just before the cabinet meeting.

The statement said a letter from President Reagan helped to influence the cabinet decision to carry out the withdrawal. U.S. officials told Reuters the letter dealt in general terms with various American commitments to Israel, including continued participation in the autonomy negotiations.

Iranians want Madari's title removed

TEHRAN, April 21 (AFP) — Most bazzars in the capital and the main towns closed Wednesday in support of the call by teachers at the Theological School of Qom to strip Ayatollah Kazem Shariat-Madari of his title as guide.

The teachers' decision was taken Tuesday after former Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh's television confession Monday in which he implicated Ayatollah Shariat-Madari, second in the religious hierarchy, in the plot to assassinate Ayatollah Khomeini and the leaders of the Islamic republic.

The call by the committee of bazaar-owners, in support of the teachers' decision and Ayatollah Khomeini, to shut down the economic lifeblood of Iran, appeared to win massive support in Tehran as well as in the provinces, according to reports Wednesday.

In Qom demonstrators called for the "execution of the coup agent" and the theology school was closed, including classes by the two leading Ayatollahs in the city, Hossein Ali Montazeri and Muhammad Golpaigani. The Iranian press also unleashed criticism Wednesday against "Shariat-Madari," for the first time leaving out reference to his religious title. The English language *Tehran Times*, along with newspapers in Farsi and statements by national religious leaders, called the Ayatollah Shariat-Madari an "ignorant old man disguised as a holy man."

Afghan fighters down helicopter gunship

ISLAMABAD, April 21 (Agencies) — Islamic fighters shot down a Soviet-built helicopter gunship and killed 44 soldiers in the latest Soviet-Afghan operation in Paktia province, resistance sources said Wednesday. They added that 23 fighters died in the fighting, which was continuing. The massive operation, launched last week, was directed against a rebel stronghold in Jaji Maidan, where the sources said Islamic fighters had dumped "sufficient arms and ammunition."

The sources said the fighters had so far destroyed seven tanks with rocket launchers, while the helicopter was hit by anti-aircraft guns. Mines have been laid to stop the advance of Soviet tanks and armored cars, they said.

Qaddafi escapes assassination bid

RIYADH, April 21 (SPA) — Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi has narrowly escaped an assassination attempt during a mutiny at the Libyan naval base at Tohrak last March 28, reliable reports said.

The reports said "rebellion" took place at Tobruk base where celebrations were being held to mark Libya's independence from Britain. "It started as Qaddafi was alighting from a naval vessel delivered by France recently," the reports added.

The reports also said colonels Ya'an Hassan Ashkal and Massoud Abdul-Hafiz, commanders of the central and southern regions, saved Qaddafi and took him out of the base immediately.

BRIEFS

TEL AVIV, (AFP) — Eight more Jewish settlements will be established this month in the occupied Golan Heights — which Israel annexed last December — and on the occupied West Bank, and five others in Israel itself, it was announced here Wednesday.

PEKING, (R) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahibzada Yaqub Khan arrived in Peking Wednesday where he was met by Chinese Vice Premier Huang Hua. Yaqub Khan, who arrived from Canton, is expected to hold talks with Communist Party Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping and Premier Zhao Ziyang as well as with Huang, who is also China's foreign minister.

CAIRO (AP) — A total of 61 bodies have been recovered from a ferry boat which capsized in a canal, 10 kms northeast of Cairo, police said. All bodies have been recovered and that they arrested the boat's owner pending trial. They did not specify the charges against him.

CAIRO (AP) — Israel announced plans Wednesday to open a consulate in the Egyptian port of Alexandria. Eli Laniado, spokesman for the Israeli embassy, said the consulate would formally open Thursday during a ceremony at the Mediterranean port.

CAIRO, April 21 (R) — Fourteen Greek tourists were killed and seven injured when their bus overturned in Sinai Tuesday night, a Greek embassy official said Wednesday.

TEL AVIV (R) — One Israeli soldier was killed and another wounded Wednesday when their vehicle hit a landmine in South Lebanon, the military command here said. It said the incident occurred near the village of Taibe and near a post manned by Nigerian troops attached to the U.N. peacekeeping force in the region.

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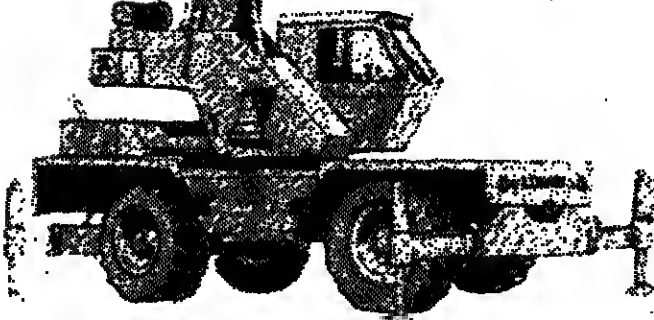
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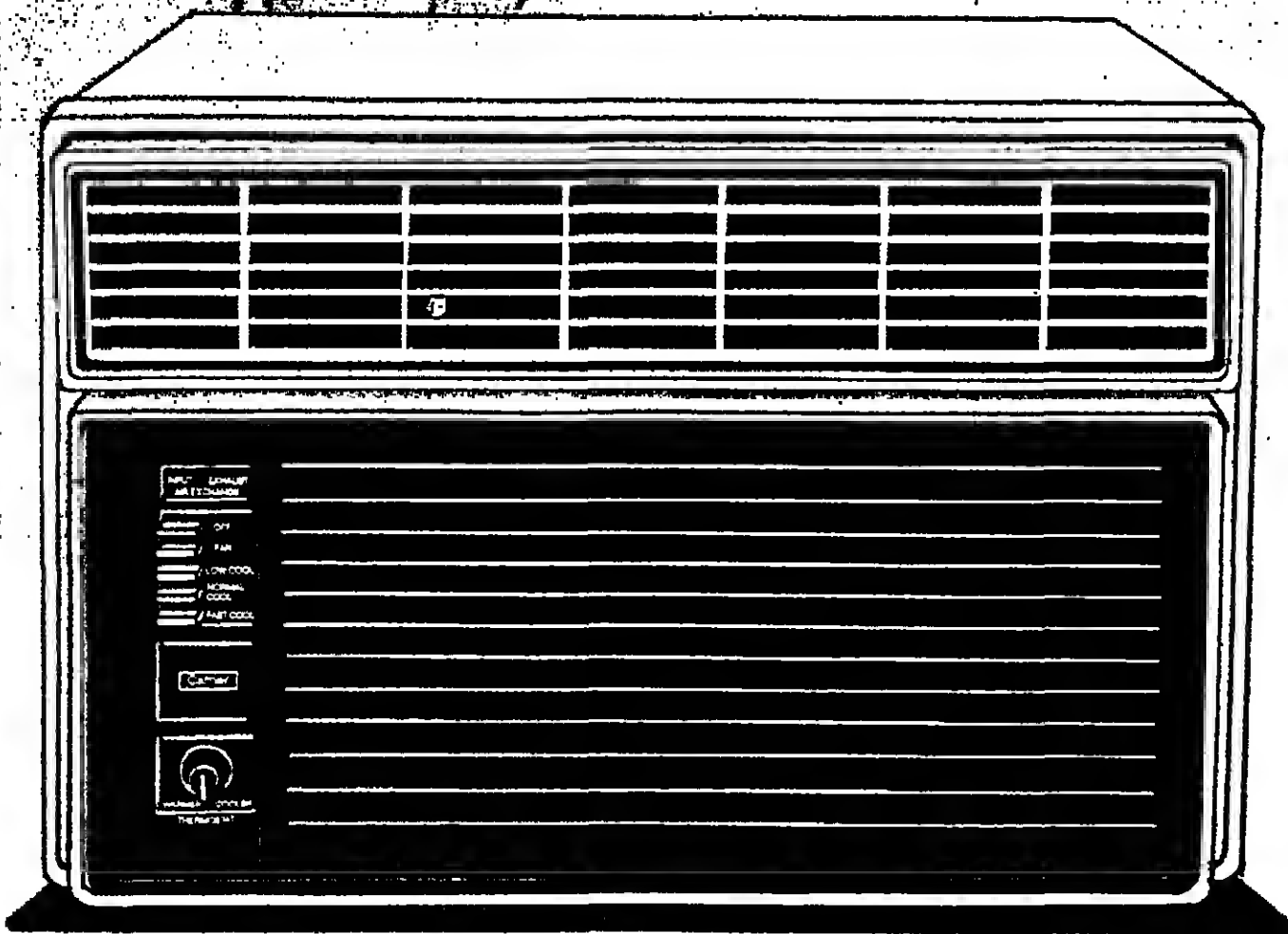
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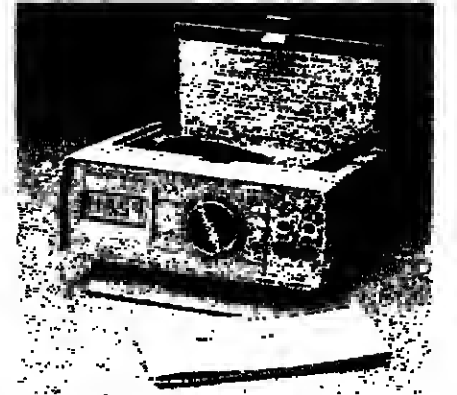
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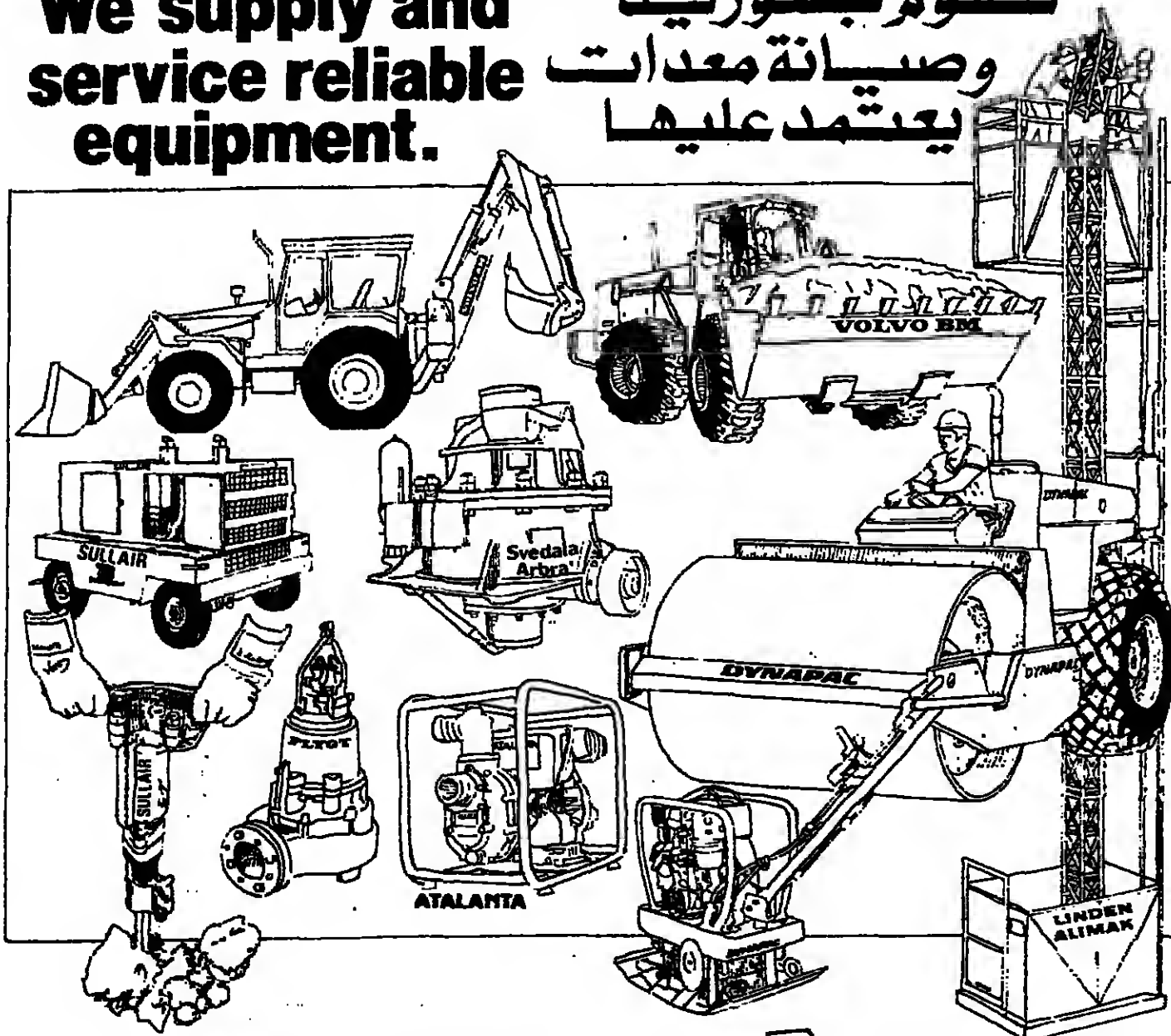
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19-82	NON-FERROUS SCRAP	DHAHRAN
20-82	NON-FERROUS SCRAP	ABQAIQ
21-82	PIPE RACKS	YANBU

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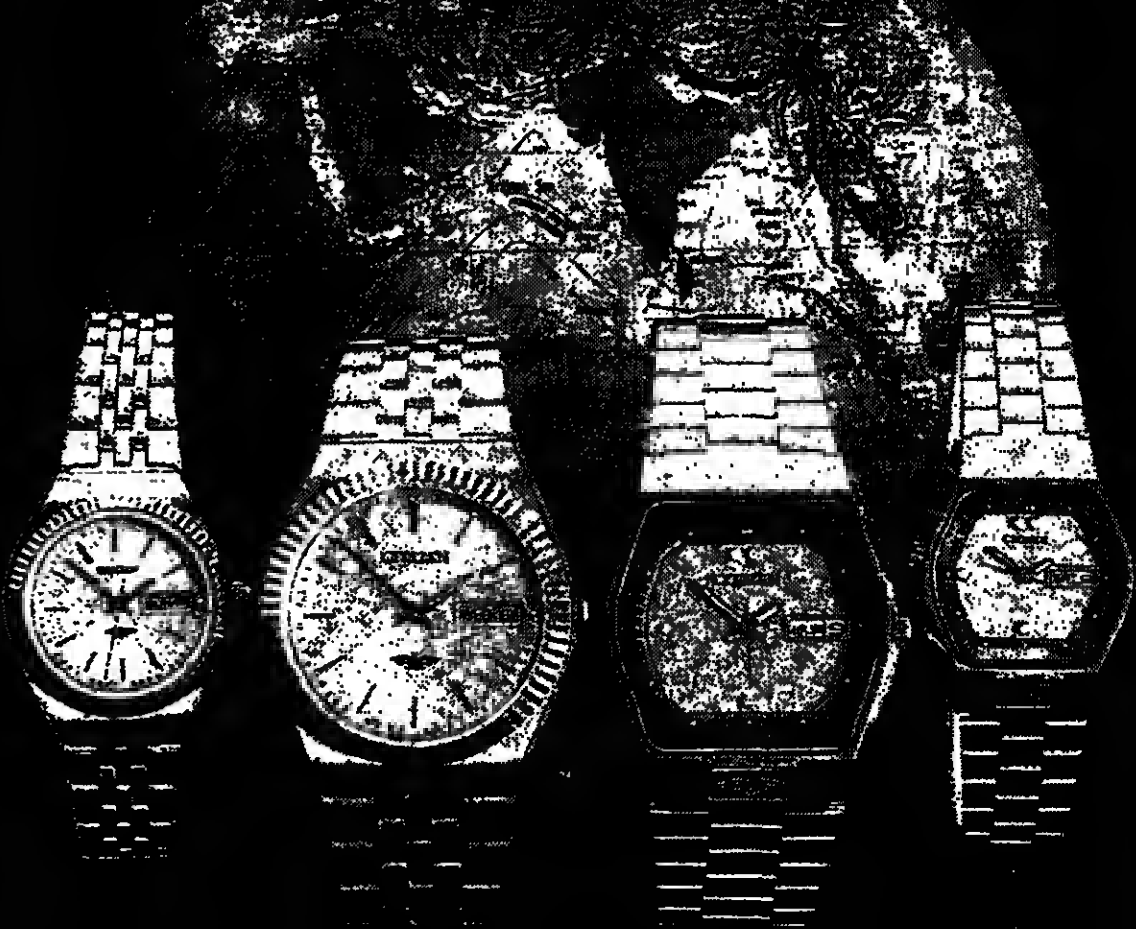
BID CLOSING DATE - 3:30 P.M. ON MONDAY - MAY 17, 1982.

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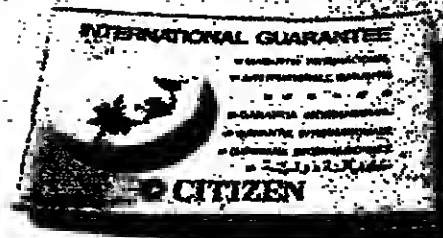


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Michigan PBB accident has long-term effects on 97 percent of residents

By Edwin Chen

DETROIT (LAT)—A new study has confirmed that nearly all of Michigan's 9.2 million residents are still contaminated by a cancer-causing fire retardant almost a decade after the chemical accidentally entered the state's food chain.

The finding, which was recently published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, follows other recent studies showing that the human body is almost incapable of

excreting the chemical PBB and that the most highly exposed individuals continue to suffer medical problems.

"We knew PBB wasn't killing people in the short term. But it's the long-term biological changes we simply don't know about," said Dr. Irving J. Selikoff, an environmental scientist who has studied the human health consequences from the 1973 industrial shipping accident in which PBB was mixed with cattle feed.

The latest findings suggest that 97 percent of Michigan residents will remain contaminated for the rest of their lives, said Renate C. Kimbrough, a federal toxicologist in Atlanta whose studies last year showed PBB causes liver cancer in rats.

Other recent laboratory experiments have shown that PBB causes growth retardation in the offspring of those exposed.

Examinations of thousands of humans have found that PBB can lead to low birth-weights, cause liver damage and severely impair one's resistance to disease.

The Michigan Department of Public Health is in the fifth year of a 20-year study of 6,000 persons designed to detect abnormal incidences of illness, including cancer, as a result of the PBB exposure.

But it would be premature for any long-term health problems to appear, Harold Humphrey, a state environmental epidemiologist, said.

The PBB contamination began when several thousand pounds of polybrominated biphenyls, a synthetic chemical used to render products such as television and radio casings fire resistant, was accidentally mixed into dairy cattle feed.

Shortly afterward, farm animals across Michigan developed hooves shaped like elf shoes, elephant-like skin, sores that would not heal and severe breeding difficulties. Later, some farm families, accustomed to eating their produce, complained of fatigue, memory lapses, rashes, arthritis-like pain and problems the state health department attributed to "situational stress."

By the time the feed mixup came to light a year later, PBB had permeated Michigan's food chain.

Eventually millions of cows, chickens, sheep and other animals had to be destroyed and hundreds of farms were quarantined. Shipping records later showed that PBB-contaminated feed and food products went to 13 other states.

French suggest allergy cures

By Paul Webster

PARIS (LOS)—French scientists have discovered a long-and a short-term cure for hay-fever. The first could change French procreation habits, and the second would mean spending several months of the year in continual migration. The scientists were led by Professor Jean Dry, head of the Committee for Information on the Risks of Allergies.

"The first cure means that couples wanting to be parents—particularly those who suffer from hay-fever themselves—must avoid putting children into the world in the months of May, June and July," said Professor Dry. "Our research shows that the allergy develops in the first few weeks of life and that children born in those months when pollen is heaviest are more likely to suffer from hay-fever for the rest of their lives."

The professor, however, places greater hope in research carried out by government scientists at Montpellier, Southern France, who have drawn up a map of where hay-fever sufferers can take refuge during the critical months once it has been discovered which plants cause the allergy.

According to Professor Dry, it is not simply a question of avoiding areas of strong concentration of pollen. Different plants cause different allergies for different people, while

some plants give off intense clouds of pollen which are non-irritant.

The government scientists have listed 3,000 different pollens and developed methods for separating them and counting their intensity in a cubic metre of air. It has been found, for instance, that in Southern France the average daily intake of microscopic particles is about 11 million per person but in Western France this can drop by half.

But the intensity of pollen count is less important than its type. The Aleppo Pine, for instance, is the most prolific, discharging about 400 pounds for every five acres of forest. Technically, this would make the forested southwest region of the Bordeaux area uninhabitable for hay-fever sufferers, except that the pollen does not irritate.

The worst offender is the Cypress which abounds as hedging in Provence. Generally-speaking, Southern France is the most dangerous for allergy sufferers. The danger-period stretches over at least six months, starting with the Ash in winter and ending with the Olive in summer.

But many people can tolerate the types of pollen produced in the south and remain allergic to lesser concentrations in the north—which is why a map has had to be produced to identify plant groups and intensity of pollen count.

NEXT WEEK

Dr. Steincrohn discusses:

Saturday, April 24

Observing the gradual change in an elderly person's personality caused by senility or depression is one of the worst experiences in life. Doctors now recognize that sometimes much can be done for the elderly due to new medical techniques.

Sunday, April 25

The popularly accepted benefits of vitamin E continue to be denied by many medical authorities. Some symptoms of overdosage are excessive fatigue, hypertension, thrombophlebitis, headache, dizziness, vaginal bleeding, nausea, diarrhea, hypoglycemia, urticaria and more.

STOP KILLING YOURSELF

Monday, April 26

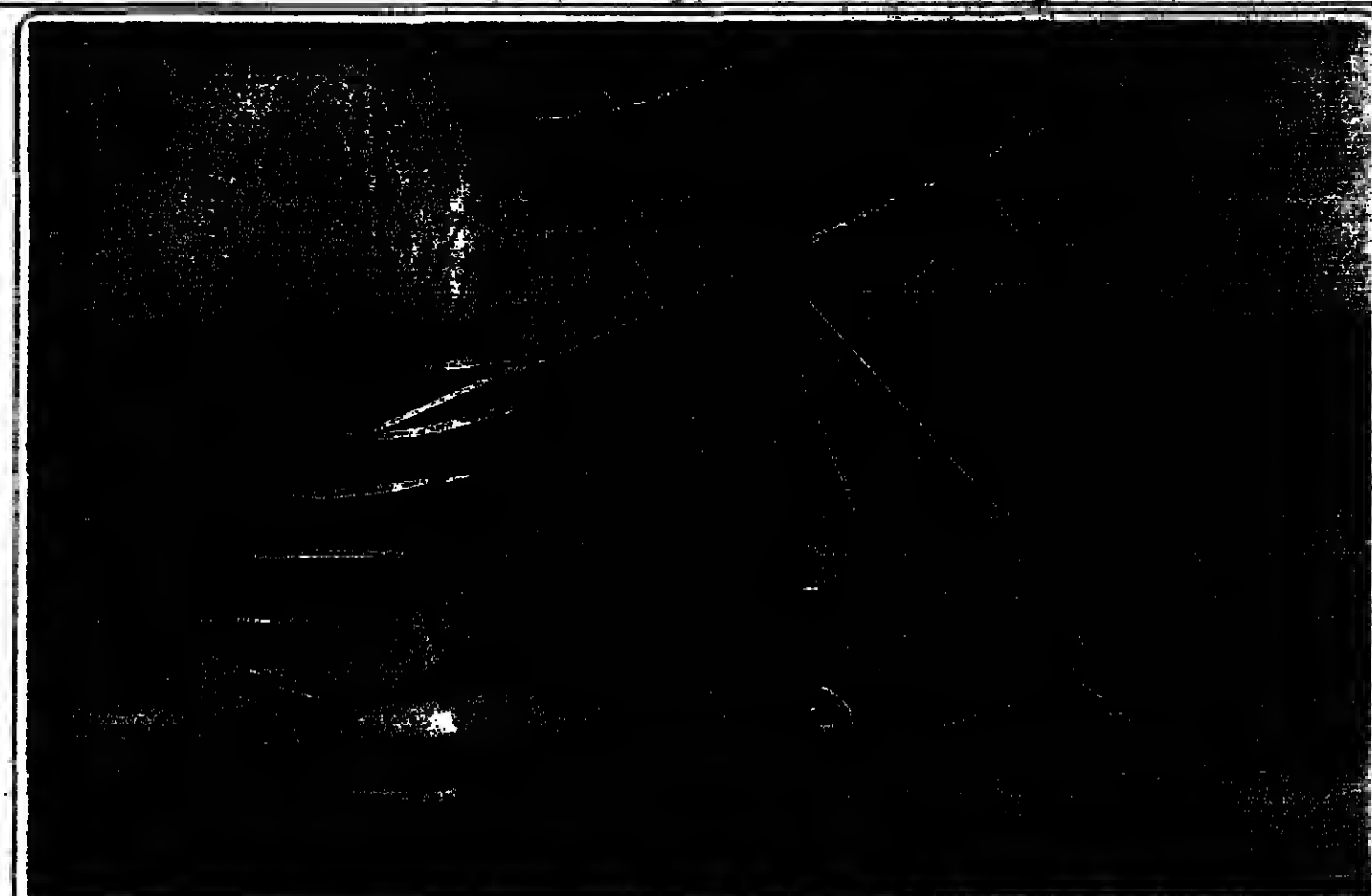
There's a new procedure called intracoronary thrombolysis which reopens the obstructed coronary artery. This treatment often saves life by preventing further damage to the patient's heart muscle.

Tuesday, April 27

People who suffer from poor circulation in leg arteries have little chance of relief by special diets.

Wednesday, April 28

Heed the doctor when he says stay in bed if you have the flu. A virus infection can endanger the heart. There have been cases of persons having heart attacks after flu.



FLYING CRAZE: This one-man aircraft called a Jet Wing All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) has lightweight hang glider wings and is powered by a small engine. The ATV flies at heights of over 3,000 feet and cruises at 50 miles per hour.

'Rice pest' wreaks havoc on farmlands, experts fight dreaded brown planthopper

LOS BANOS, Philippines, (Depthnews)—They are tinier than grains of rice but farmers and agricultural experts know better than to ignore the presence of the brown planthopper (BPH) in farms. For the insects have become among the most dreaded pests in Asia's rice-producing countries. In 1979, damage caused by BPH in the region in terms of yield losses was placed at over \$30 million.

The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) noted that BPH, while a major problem in China, Japan and South Korea for centuries, was only a sporadic problem in the tropics.

Attacks on lowland rice crops in epidemic proportions started only in the second half of the seventies. It caused considerable damage in the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, India, Sri Lanka and the Solomon Islands.

Researchers associate the increase in brown planthopper population with the changing agronomy of rice production. Expansion of irrigation facilities, for instance, provided the insects with a more continuous habitat. New highyielding varieties were found to possess characteristics which favored the BPH's population increase. Even

the use of fertilizer contributed to the increase.

An annual trans-oceanic migration of the insect has also been observed. "This phenomenon accounts for the pest invasions in the temperate countries of Japan and Korea," says Trevor John Perfect of the London-based Center for Overseas Pest Research (COPR).

Dr. Perfect, who is currently in charge of a Los Banos-based BPH project undertaken jointly by COPR, IRRI and the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), says evidence suggests that migration also occurs within the tropical range of the insect's distribution zone. This should account for the severe population outbreaks in the tropics.

In temperate countries like Japan and Korea, the pests were apparently attracted by warm and humid air masses during the rainy months of June and July.

But its high migratory ability and high productivity on modern rice varieties make it very well adapted to exploit tropical habitats, according to the specialist. "In the tropics, the insect is found throughout the year," Dr. Perfect says.

Planthopper populations begin with "immigrants." Migratory adults produce a resident population which attacks the growing plants, thus reducing their yield potential. The insects destroy rice plants by piercing the leaf sheath and sucking the sap.

During epidemics, the BPH population builds up fast in concentrated spots. Hoppers then move outward in all directions, leaving "hopperburned" spots of dead rice plants.

Effective control of the pest is made difficult by the fact that it involves the prediction of the population size through the initial level of migration. By the volume of migrant insects, levels of outbreaks in subsequent generations could be known.

However, in the tropics, potential for migration is always present, making accurate forecast difficult. In Japan, the insects migrate over a known limited period so that assessing the future population size from the volume of migrants is less difficult.

Dr. Perfect attributes the continuing BPH migration in the tropics to the "mosaic and asynchronous nature of rice cultivation in the region." In addition, "the process of population regulation is better developed in the tropics, hence, there is increased habitat stability and continuity."

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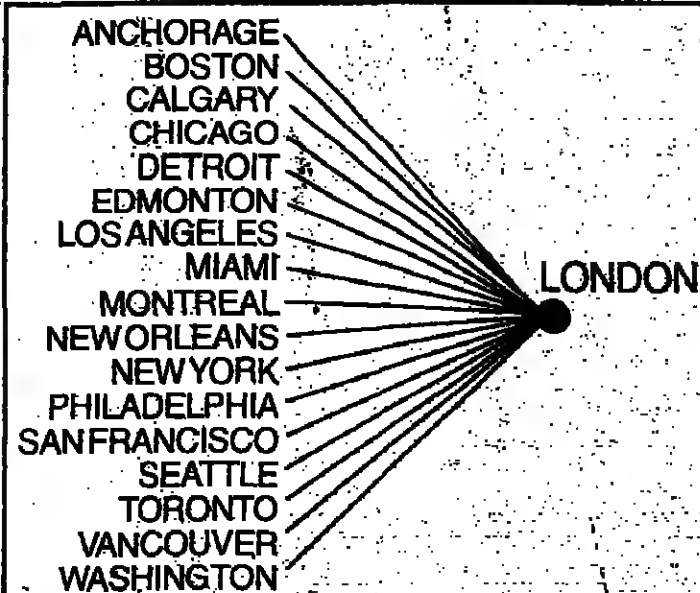
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Defection bid from North

Gun battle flares up in Korean peace zone

SEOUL, April 21 (Agencies) — North and South Korean soldiers fought a four-hour gun battle Wednesday across the border demilitarized zone, defense officials here said. They said the firing began after four North Korean soldiers were killed or injured by one of their own mines while trying to defect to the South. No South Koreans were wounded, they said.

The North confirmed it had suffered casualties, but said the battle was sparked by South Korean troops firing on a civilian police patrol. "The armed provocations of the South Korean puppet army caused casualties among personnel on our side on their routine patrol duty," said a report by the (North) Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), monitored in Tokyo.

Both sides agreed that thousands of rounds of ammunition have been fired across the demilitarized zone, a four-km-wide strip drawn up to divide them after they fought a

three-year war in the early 1950s.

Wednesday's incident was the first cross-border firing between the two sides this year. They fired at each other on seven occasions last year. Protests have been lodged over the incident by both sides, which have consistently rejected reunification proposals.

U.S. Rear Adm. James G. Storms, senior member of the joint Military Armistice Commission that supervises the 1953 Korean armistice, reported the incident to the Communist side in a message which called the shooting a "serious violation," a United Nations Command spokesman said. He also said that a special team of U.S., South Korean and third country personnel was continuing its investigation at the scene.

The KCNA account of the incident was contrary to the report made by South Korean military, which said North Korean border forces fired into the zone at defecting North Korean soldiers.

The news agency said members of the North Korean "civil police" were on routine patrol when "the South Korean puppet army fired all of a sudden large-caliber machine guns and automatic rifles at personnel of our side..."

The report said South Korean forces fired 15,000 large caliber machine gun rounds and 8,000 rounds of automatic and recoilless rifle fire. The South Korean account of the incident estimated the North Koreans fired about 800 rounds into the demilitarized zone, and said 50 flares were launched in an apparent attempt to locate the would-be defectors.

"Under such conditions our side was compelled to take necessary steps in self-defense," the North Korean report said. It said a North Korean general, Hea Ju Gyong, made two telephone calls to the South Korean military "exposing the criminal acts perpetrated by the enemy."

U.S. planned bomb-carrying bats, Soviets say

MOSCOW, April 21 (Agencies) — A Soviet journal suggested Wednesday that the United States was nurturing plans to use "zoological weapons" — bats which delivered incendiary bombs.

The *Literaturnaya Gazeta* (literary gazette) said the United States spent \$2 million during World War II perfecting small firebombs which could be attached to the backs of bats and dropped from airplanes. Under the headline "Napalm-Carrying Bats," the article said the bats would seek out dark refuges in houses and set off the bombs in their efforts to discard them. This method was estimated to be 10 times more destructive than conventional incendiary bombing.

The journal, which has often accused the United States of preparing for chemical and

germ warfare, quoted Western press reports as saying a decision was taken in March 1944 to produce a million such bombs but it was never carried out.

"The technology covering the manufacture of incendiary bombs to be carried by bats has not been declassified to this day," the journal said. "What does this mean? Are they going to use 40-year-old secrets to achieve the aims of today?" it asked.

Meanwhile, the ousted Khmer Rouge government claimed Wednesday that chemical warfare by Vietnam had killed 1,216 Cambodians during the 1981-82 dry season, which is just ending. Khmer Rouge radio, believed to be broadcasting from southern China, at the same time renewed a plea for a United Nations team to intervene.

Vietnam hopes for German help

BONN, April 21 (AFP) — Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach expressed the hope here Wednesday that West Germany will "support all possibilities for negotiation between opposing countries in Asia." Thach's statement, at a press conference winding up a 24-hour visit to Bonn, during which he talked with Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, was seen here as reflecting Hanoi's difficulties with Peking and the repercussions of the Cambodian crisis on neighboring countries.

Genscher said afterward that he had received Thach at the latter's express request. West Germany refuses to recognize the pro-Vietnamese Cambodian government and insists that the Cambodian people should decide their own future without interference from outside.

On Cambodia, Thach said that Hanoi would pull out its troops when Thailand stopped backing the opponents of the Cambodian government.

BRIEFS

goes to the standing committee of the National People's Congress for submission to nationwide discussion.

ATHENS (AP) — Danish Premier Anker Joergensen Wednesday began a three-day official visit to Greece with talks on the Greek bid to revamp its EEC membership with Premier Andreas Papandreu.

NEW DELHI (AFP) — The president of the outlawed Mizo National Front (MNF) Laldenga left for London Wednesday, after being ordered to leave the country by the government. The MNF has been accused of secessionist activities and assaults on the Indian Army stationed in the 21,097-square-km strategic Mizo state, bordering Burma and Bangladesh in the northeast.

WINDHOEK (AFP) — The operation by the guerrillas of the Southwest Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) in northern Namibia has cost the lives of six civilians, both black and white, and nine members of the South African forces, according to unofficial figures Wednesday.

Mahathir set to reshuffle cabinet posts

KUALA LUMPUR, April 21 (AFP) — A major cabinet reshuffle is on the cards in Malaysia as the ruling Barisan Nasional (National Front) Party is poised to secure more than two-thirds majority in the country's sixth general election Thursday, according to observers.

An estimated 1.5 million voters go to the polls from 8:00 a.m. to cast their votes for 365 candidates seeking 145 parliamentary seats, and for 738 candidates running for 293 assembly seats in the 11 states of peninsular Malaysia.

Armed with a strong mandate in an election called a full 15 months before the expiry of the current parliamentary term, Prime Minister Mahathir Muhammad and his trusted deputy, Datuk Musa Hitam, are also set on streamlining the bureaucracy and transforming Malaysia "into an economically advanced, spiritually resilient nation that will command the respect of all nations".

Although the degree of maneuverability in a front made up of 11 parties — many biding divergent views — is not considerable, the popularly known "2-M team" of Dr. Mahathir and Datuk Musa Hitam, has shown its ability to handle the situation. According to National Front sources, the cabinet reshuffle is likely to involve some fundamental realignments in portfolios such as finance, trade and industry, and primary industries, giving the prime minister's office an element of direct control not hitherto exercised.

To fulfill this objective, several new faces have been fielded among the candidates. With the final results officially expected around 10:30 p.m. Thursday, the election commission is gearing up to announce the outcome with the least possible delay.

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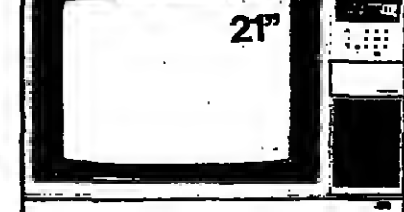
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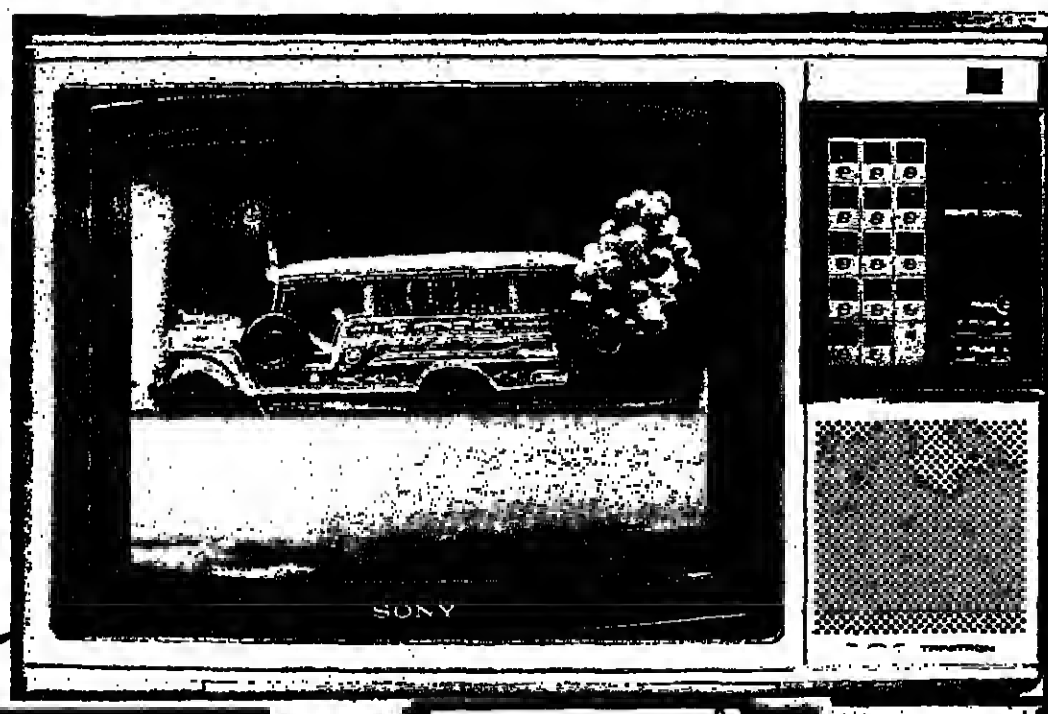
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Glut, falling prices plague sugar states

LONDON, April 21 (R) — The price for sugar is at its lowest for two and a half years and the countries that depend on sugar exports are bracing for an even deeper slump.

Sugar is grown in more than 100 countries, and while perhaps only a fifth of the world's production is traded on international markets, prices can seersaw wildly as they react to speculation, crop disasters and political tension.

In late 1980 fears of a shortage pushed the London market to a six-year high of 446 sterling (\$1,070 at that time) a ton and since then it has fallen below 130 sterling (\$230 at current exchange rates).

Such sharp price falls, caused by climbing production and stagnating consumption owing to the recession, are particularly harmful to countries in Africa, the Caribbean and Central America that need the foreign currency earnings their sugar exports generate.

So far no consensus exists on how to tackle the problems of heavy over-supply and falling prices, but there are signs of increasing pressure on producers to take action to shift the balance of the world market back in their favor.

The 59-nation International Sugar Organization has begun to examine the options for stiffening the way its agreement works. A series of meetings will be held in London next month the focus on the level of exports by members of the international sugar agree-

ment and a timetable for building up stocks to be held off the market.

The agreement is designed to keep prices stable by regulating the amount of sugar reaching the world market, and its exporter members have already started to stockpile sugar. They will amass on million tons by this summer and under present plans this should rise to 2.5 million by 1984.

But market analysts say that the organization lacks the power of OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) oil producers and that a key proposal—to set up the speed with which these stocks are built up—has little chance of success owing to internal differences.

Similarly, while the organization is expected to consider a number of proposals designed to limit the amount its members can export, no clear favorite has emerged.

Critics of the agreement say its members will not reach accord while individual countries are unwilling to cut exports if they reckon there is a chance others will do it first. Export cutbacks can mean sugar left unharvested, expensive factories idled and unemployment. Exporting sugar, even at depressed prices, is often preferable to curtailment.

William Miller, the Sugar Organization's executive director, says the agreement does not work properly, being "greatly handicapped by the absence of the European Economic Community."

Thailand, EEC to view trade

BRUSSELS, April 21 (AFP) — Thailand Prime Minister Gen. Prem Tinsulanonda is due here Thursday for a three-day visit to the commission of the European Economic Community (EEC) expected to center on Thai exports of textiles and manioc.

It will be the general's first visit, and should enable the two sides to look at ways of strengthening co-operation and of resolving trade problems, Thai diplomatic sources said.

Bilateral relations are covered by the commercial, economic and development accord signed in 1980 between the EEC and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations comprising Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The EEC Commission recently proposed limiting the community's imports of manioc to five million tons in 1982. Thailand would like this to be increased to six million tons.

EEC investments in Thailand amounted to a mere \$39 million at the end of 1980, little more than 12 percent of all foreign investment in this country. Half the EEC total came from Britain with other large chunks from the Netherlands and West Germany.

While Gen. Prem tries to woo more money out of countries like France—which has no large trading company in Thailand—he will also be dealing with his country's dispute with the EEC over Tapioca imports.

Fully 89 percent of Thailand's 6.4 million tons of exported tapioca, were bought by

EEC members, but Bangkok now complains that the Common Market has imposed overly restrictive import quotas on its second most important export after rice.

The Thai prime minister is also expected to raise forthcoming bilateral talks on renewal of textile agreements under the 1983-1986 multi-fiber agreement.

He is also expected to present projects for industrial and mining investment on his country's southern coast in the Gulf of Thailand, and a group of Thai businessmen is due to meet Belgian industrialists.

Canada, Algeria sign grain pact

OTTAWA, April 21 (AP) — A new three-year grain agreement with Algeria, expected to be worth about \$500 million in sales for prairie farmers, has been signed, Wheat Board Minister Hazen Argue has announced.

The agreement comes into force August 1 to replace a current three-year deal. The grain will be shipped through Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Argue said the Algerians have agreed to increase by 50 percent their minimum purchases of durum wheat, used to make pasta. Algeria will take at least 500,000 metric tons of durum a year plus a possible 100,000 tons of bread wheat in the 1980-81 crop year. Algeria bought 650,000 tons of durum.

Argue said wheat board officials will travel to Algeria to negotiate specific sales. The minister said he hopes the announcement will provide additional encouragement to farmers to continue expanding production.

Fiat opposes West tie-ups with Japan

TURIN, Italy, April 21 (AFP) — The Italian Fiat car company warned European car manufacturers against joint ventures with Japanese firms, but urged them to step up cooperation on a European basis alone.

In a press conference here Tuesday to mark the opening of Turin's 12 day automobile show Wednesday Fiat auto chief Vittorio Ghidella urged European car manufacturers to pool their efforts in a bid to "consolidate their position" on the international auto market.

Ghidella lashed out against joint ventures between European and Japanese auto firms, such as the Alfa Romeo-Nissan or British Leyland-Honda deals. These ventures, he said, were "a more dangerous form of Japanese penetration than exports."

Under these deals, he said, the Japanese were likely to view Europe as a series of under developed countries, ideal for setting up auto assembly lines.

Ghidella stressed that Fiat favored intra-European ventures and quoted as an example the joint Fiat-Peugeot venture to manufacture the Ducato utility vehicle.

Fiat Auto, he said, had stepped up productivity by 40 percent in two years by upgrading research and development.

ITC urges curbing tin exports

LONDON, April 21 (AFP) — The critical position of the International Tin Council's buffer stock was clearly spelled out to council delegates in London at the start of a four-day meeting.

Without over-dramatizing the situation, the buffer stock manager Pieter de Konig is understood to have explained to delegates that the need to conserve fast disappearing funds was of paramount importance. He is believed to have insisted that the use of export controls was the last means at the council's disposal to maintain current market prices.

But some consumers were doubtful as to the usefulness of export controls at the present time. Some felt it was too late to have any effect. Others pointed out that such a move would indirectly benefit the "mysterious" buyer (said to be producer-backed and still

Chinese confess to economic crimes

PEKING, April 21 (R) — Nearly 3,000 persons in Communist China have confessed to economic crimes such as smuggling and fraud in the last six weeks, the People's Daily said Tuesday.

A law was passed March 9 bringing in harsher penalties, including the death sentence for dishonest state officials, and 2,900 people have since given themselves up.

Criminals have until May 21 to confess voluntarily in exchange for lenient treatment. Knowledge that privileged officials are

holding considerable stocks) who forced price rises to a record 9,000 pounds a ton in February and then was thought to have engineered the subsequent collapse.

Any recovery in prices at this time would enable these stocks to be sold at a profit, these sources said. The debate continues Wednesday without any indication that there will be an easy or quick answer to the problem.

Market prices turned barely steady in nervous trading, despite the slightly weaker trend for sterling (usually a firming factor) with sentiment being more affected by the peace proposals to solve the Falklands crisis. The buffer stock manager was again thought to have been buying metal, nevertheless prices were ten pounds down on Monday's close at 7132.5 pounds and 7350 pounds for cash and forward metal.

feathering their nests at public expense has led to widespread cynicism, especially among the young.

Radio Peking Tuesday gave a blunt warning to those guilty of "economic crimes" who had not yet given themselves up. "The glorious path of confession and lenient treatment is ahead of you," the official radio said. "Don't hesitate any longer. Otherwise when the people's police come knocking at your door with an arrest warrant, it will be too late to repent."

Lagos limits imports of many goods

LAGOS, April 21 (R) — Nigerian President Shagari has announced drastic measures to curb imports in order to deal with an economic crisis caused by plunging oil revenues.

Shagari said in a nationwide television and radio broadcast that imports of a wide range of goods produced on a significant scale in Nigeria would be restricted. In addition, imports of all motor vehicles would be suspended until further notice in a move apparently designed to aid local assembly plants as well as to save foreign exchange.


The measures follow a temporary ban on import financing since March 23, made necessary by a drop in oil exports during the current world glut. Britain is the largest exporter to Nigeria, followed by West Germany, Japan and the United States.

Japan to grant Jordan \$49m

TOKYO, April 21 (R) — Japan will extend Jordan 12.1 billion yen (\$49 million) in yen credits to help improve and expand telephone networks, the foreign ministry said Wednesday.

In the past, Japan has provided Jordan with a total of 19.2 billion yen (\$78 million) in low-interest yen credits, the ministry said.

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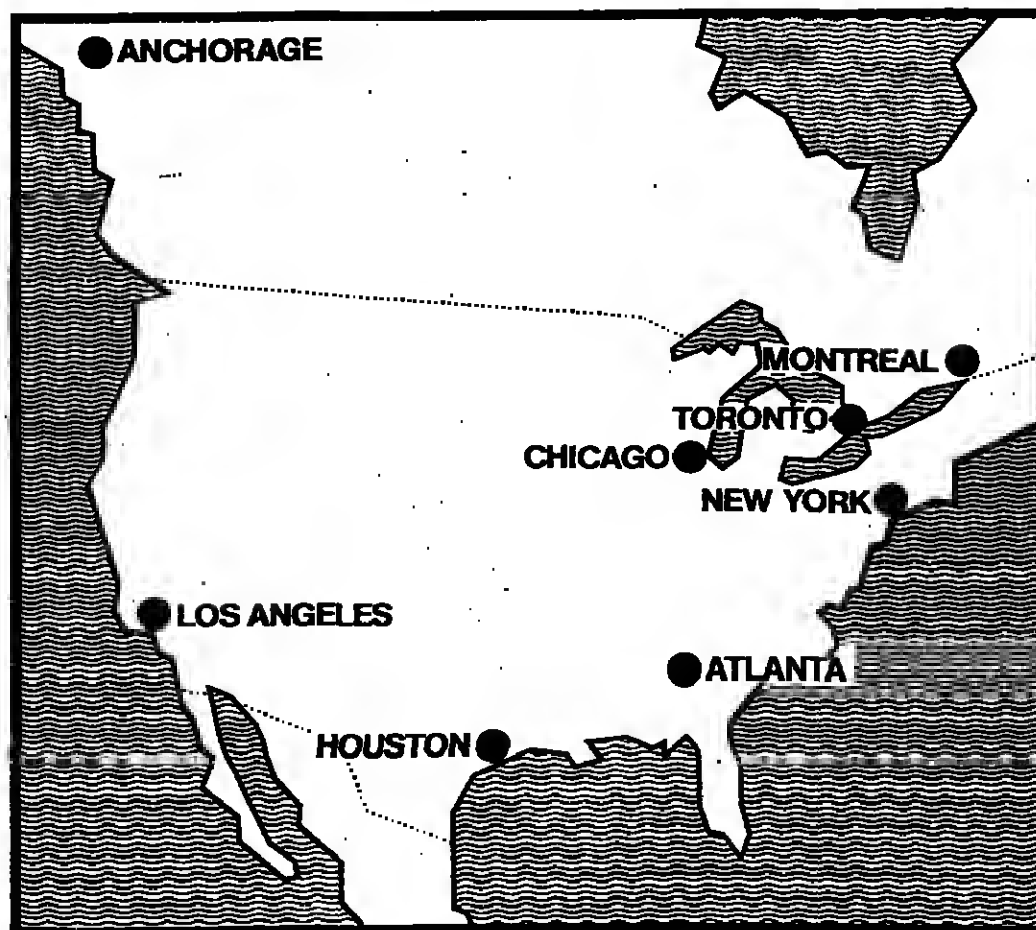
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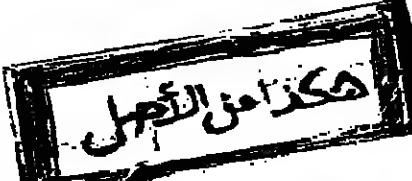
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Failure to meet reforms

IMF halts \$5b loans to 15 states

WASHINGTON, April 21 (AFP) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has suspended loan agreements worth a record total of about \$5 billion to some 15 countries, fund sources have said here.

The IMF decided on suspension because the countries concerned are unable for various reasons to meet immediately the economic and financial reforms negotiated under the agreements.

Top of the list of these countries is Romania with a suspended line of credit tot-

aling \$1.06 billion. Next comes Zaire with \$806 million, Morocco \$748 million, Bangladesh \$638 million, Zambia \$550 million, Grenada \$350 million, Costa Rica \$279 million, Tanzania \$170 million, and Guyana \$108 million.

Several of these countries, including Morocco, are using normal procedures to renegotiate their agreements with the fund. The fund sources said that the increase in the number of suspended loan plans ran parallel to a sharp increase in loans granted

over the last year to Third World countries experiencing serious balance of payments problems.

The increase in suspensions mainly reflects the problems of some countries in applying economic and financial reforms arranged under the terms of the loans.

The sources said that the problems were usually due to factors beyond the control of the borrowing country, such as a fall in the price of raw material exports, or domestic difficulties such as political opposition to the required reforms.

The IMF, which was accused last year by the U.S. administration headed by Ronald Reagan, of being too lax with its loans, has since tightened its requirements of borrowers, observers said.

The \$5 billion involved in the suspensions represent about a quarter of the \$18.5 billion worth of credit — usually for three years — which the fund has approved this year.

U.K. ties with L. America hit

LONDON, April 21 (AFP) — Britain's embargo on trade with Argentina over the Falklands crisis is beginning to affect the city of London's relations with other Latin American countries.

City financiers risk losing some important clients, and two loans — one to Uruguay and the other to Brazil have already been upset.

Three British banks have pulled out of a \$100 million loan guaranteed by the Uruguayan government which was being raised to finance the Salto Grande hydro electric scheme which dams the river between Uruguay and Argentina.

The British government has banned the British participation which would have totaled some \$20 million because Argentina is involved.

Te second loan has been upset by the withdrawal of two Argentine banks, El Banco de La Nacion and El Banco de La Provincia de Buenos Aires. This \$200 million loan involving British interest was for the Brazilian merchant navy.

This recently negotiated loan was due to be matched by large orders for two roll-on-roll off cargo vessels and for equipment to modernize the Brazilian merchant fleet. The signing of the contract could be delayed unless the two Argentine banks can soon be replaced.

Meanwhile, the London Lloyds insurance giant is to lose a contract to insure the plane of the Aerolineas Argentinas Airline for more than \$700 million.

The policy earned Lloyds some \$10 million a year but it expires at the end of this month and its renewal is to be handled on the New York market.

Lloyds managers have called their members into line after some were accused Monday by Labor Member of Parliament Christopher Price of breaching government directives by maintaining contact with their Argentine correspondents.

Guyana strikes oil

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, April 21 (AP) — Drillers have found oil in commercial quantities in a remote portion of Guyana's deep jungle which is claimed by Venezuela, the government has announced.

Hubert Jack, minister of energy and mines, said Tuesday the home oil company, a Canadian consortium, made the discovery. Oil was reported flowing at 400 barrels a day from a well drilled to 900 feet (275 meters). Jack called the rate very encouraging.

The well was the second drilled in the Takutu Basin which geologists say was part of a vast inland lake discovered thousands of years ago.

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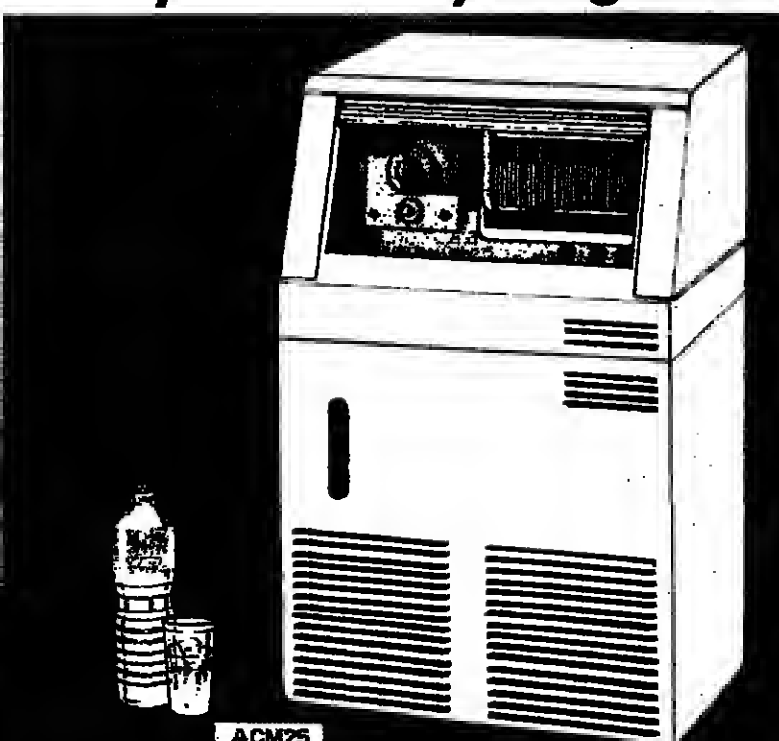
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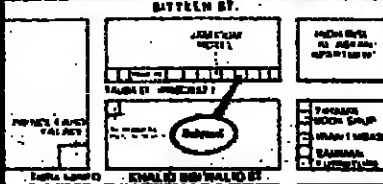
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Paris court frees Iran's \$1 billion

PARIS, April 21 (AFP) — Iran on Wednesday won a case before the appeal court here which released \$1 billion frozen since 1979 in a dispute over the European Eurodif uranium enriching consortium.

The money was frozen in 1979 by the commercial court here after the Iranian revolution because Iran's new leaders decided not to honor commitments to Eurodif in which Iran was a shareholder.

The commercial court froze the assets as damages. The figure cited in Wednesday's hearing of \$1 billion plus interest matches a loan made to France by the former Shah's administration in Iran in 1975.

The appeal court based its judgment on the principle that a state should be free to handle its funds as it sees fit. Lawyers acting for atomic energy officials, Eurodif and the French state, argued that the money constituted straightforward commercial funds, but the court found that they were state funds protected by an element of immunity.

U.K. stands firm on farm prices

LUXEMBOURG, April 21 (R) — Britain reaffirmed its insistence that it would prevent any agreement on higher prices for the European Economic Community's eight million farmers as long as it obtained no satisfaction on its demands for refunds on its EEC membership bill.

The British position was made clear at a meeting of EEC agriculture ministers here Tuesday by Britain's deputy farm minister, Alick Buchanan-Smith.

There had been suggestions that Britain might be prepared to adopt a less rigid stance on farm prices, in view of the support it has received from its EEC partners on the Falkland Islands crisis.

But British officials here were at pains to make clear the British attitude that farm prices and Britain's complaints about the EEC budget were quite separate problems from the Falkland Islands. "We are grateful for the community's help in agreeing on trade sanctions against Argentina (following its invasion of the Falkland Islands)," one British official said. "But this does not alter the strength of case on the budget," he added.

Dollar rates continue to slide

By J.H. Hammond

JEDDAH, April 21 — Eurodollar deposit rates continued to fall Wednesday adding pressure on the American currency in the European exchanges. The dollar gave away further ground against the Japanese yen and the Swiss franc but recovered slightly against the French franc after the French central bank reduced its money market intervention support rate from 17 to 16 percent. The British pound kept trading within a wide range, still affected by the Falklands diplomatic impasse over the crisis.

In the bullion markets, the price of gold was steady at \$346.80 on opening and reached \$347.00 by late afternoon Wednesday compared with \$342 on Tuesday.

In the local markets, rial deposit rates eased further to take the one-month JIBOR rate to 13-13½ percent levels — the lowest since the end of March this year. Trading was reported to be quiet and nervous for most of the day with dealers concentrating on short-dated fund transactions.

The one-month Eurodollar deposit rate is now quoted under 14½ percent and dealers expected some further declines in rates by the weekend closing. In the longer tenors, the one-year rate was quoted at 14 11/16 percent at one stage before a slight rally took place. In New York on Tuesday night, the Federal Reserve Board's "Fed fund" prime lending rate closed at 14 3/16 percent — one sixteenth percent lower than the Monday night New York closing rate. At the same time, the money markets were casting anxious glances toward some forthcoming U.S. economic indicators and they felt that a picture of a worsening U.S.

economic recession will not make it politically possible for the Reagan Administration to maintain its present tight monetary policy. The falls in the "Fed" lending rates could be the signal for such a move on the rate front in general.

In the European exchanges, the Japanese yen traded at 242.00 levels after closing at 243.80 in New York on Tuesday night. The French franc fell to 6.2450 levels after the central bank discount rate cuts while the German mark was more stable at 2.3980 levels. The British pound traded at 1.7705 to 1.7700 levels without signs of much Bank of England support, while the Swiss franc was stronger at 1.9410-1.9400 levels.

In the local markets, spot rial/dollar rates traded at highs of 3.4315-20 levels in morning trading but later fell back to 3.4305-12 levels. Commercial demand for foreign currencies pushed up the dollar as importers tried to open letters of credits at still favorable exchange rates. Inter-bank dealing was still reported as being moderately low. In the money markets, rial deposit rates fell back to take the one-year rate to 13-13½ percent against 13¼-13¾ percent the previous day.

In the short dates, the week-fixed rates fell to 12½ percent from 13 percent Tuesday while the three-month rate also fell back by more than ½ percent to trade at 13¼-13½ percent Wednesday.

Closing gold prices (in U.S. dollar per troy ounce):

London	343.37
Paris	346.09
Frankfurt	347.97
Zurich	346.50
Hong Kong	closed

BRIEFS

WASHINGTON, (R) — U.S. inflation-adjusted gross national product fell at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 3.9 percent in the first quarter after falling 4.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 1981, the Commerce Department said. Inflation, as measured by the GNP implicit price deflator, rose at an annual rate of 3.6 percent during the first quarter after a 9.5 percent fourth quarter advance.

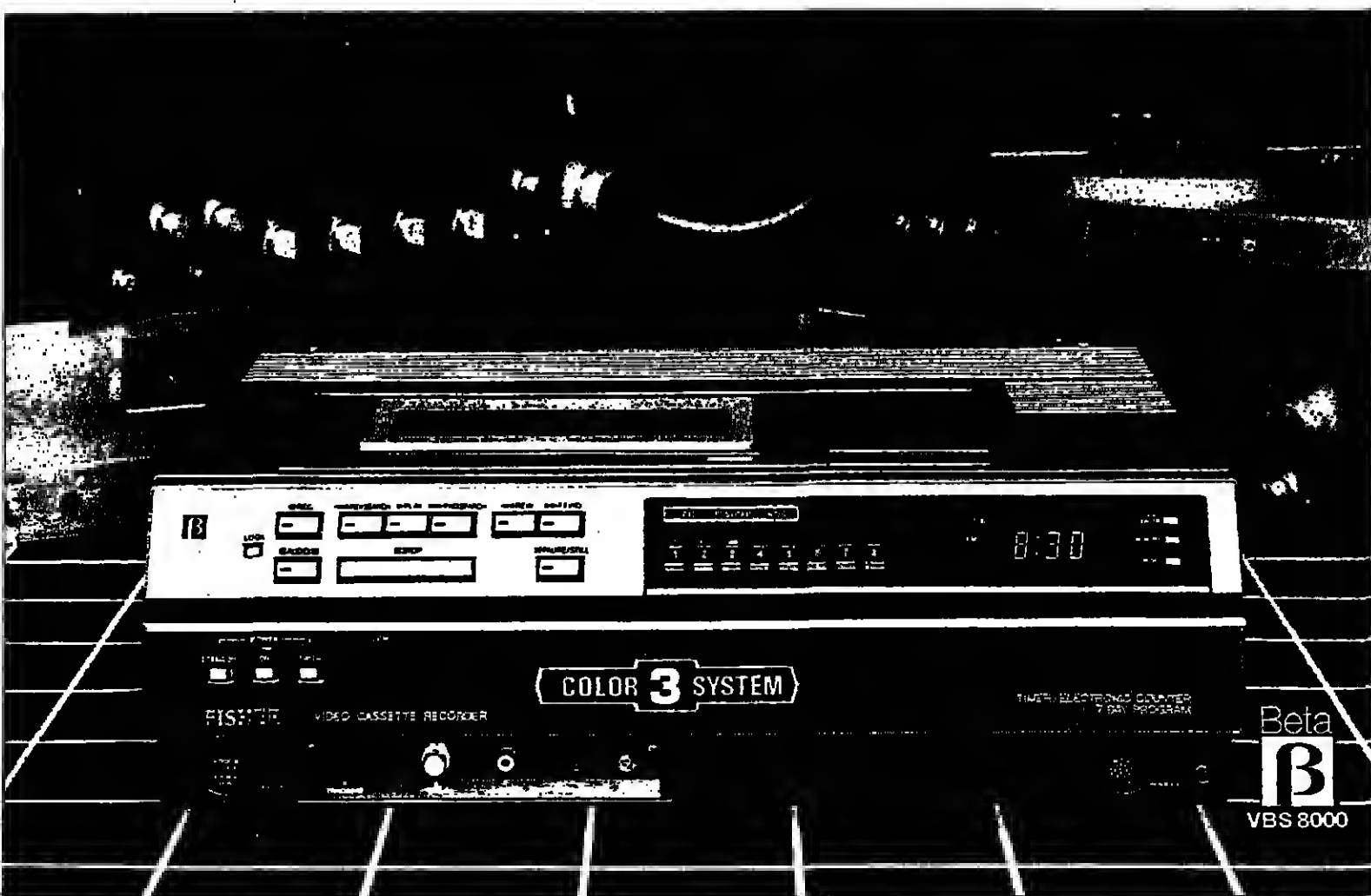
LONDON, (R) — U.K. average earnings growth rose to 11.3 percent the previous month, the Employment Department said.

But the underlying rate fell to 10.75 percent from 11 percent it added. The whole economy earnings index, base January 1976, covering 21 million workers, was set provisionally at 219.2 seasonally adjusted compared with 216.4 in January and 196.9 in February last year.

BRUSSELS, (AFP) — The number of people unemployed in the European Economic Community at the end of March totaled 10.5 million or 9.5 percent of the working population, compared with 10.7 million the previous month, according to official figures released here Wednesday.



The first name in high fidelity



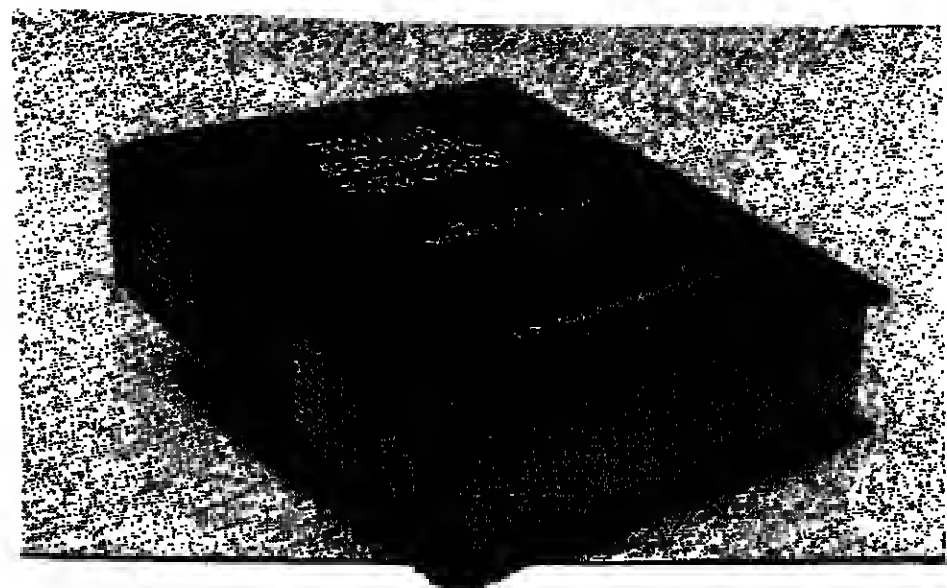
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The very finest audio craftsmanship from the very first stereo manufacturer. The Fisher story is a history of firsts. Credited with starting the industry in 1929, a devoted the first AM/FM stereo receiver in 1959 and its turntable Avery Fisher was permanently recognized in 1973 by the Grammy Award for Best New Artist as the first to be named Grammy Award winner. Fisher today is as it has always been—the first name in high fidelity.



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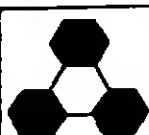
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PEGASUS TIMBER	23.4.1982
ATALAYA	10.5.1982

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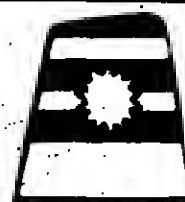
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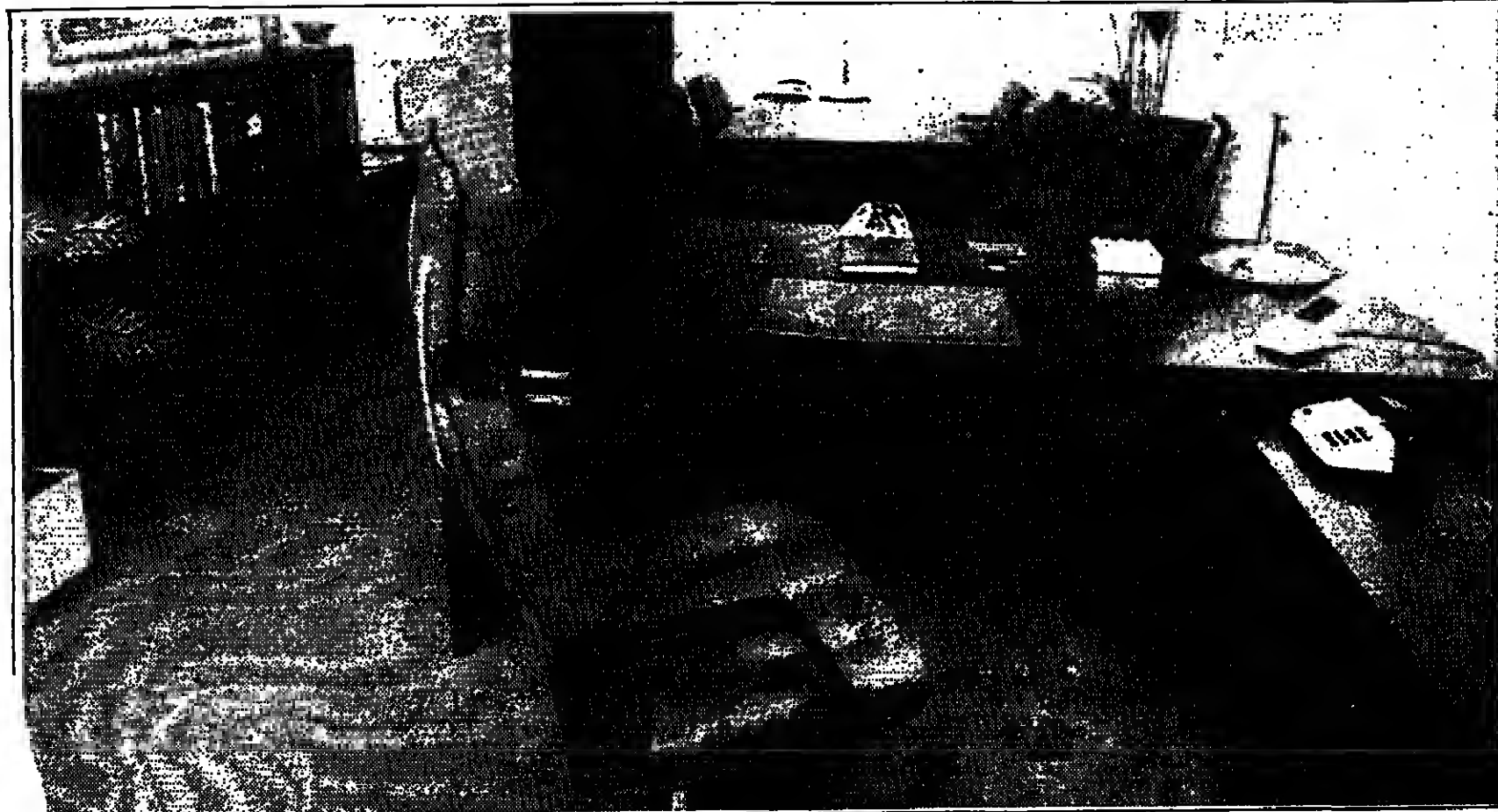


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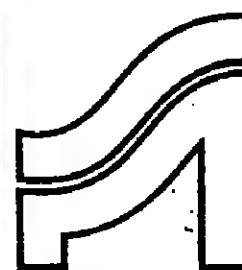
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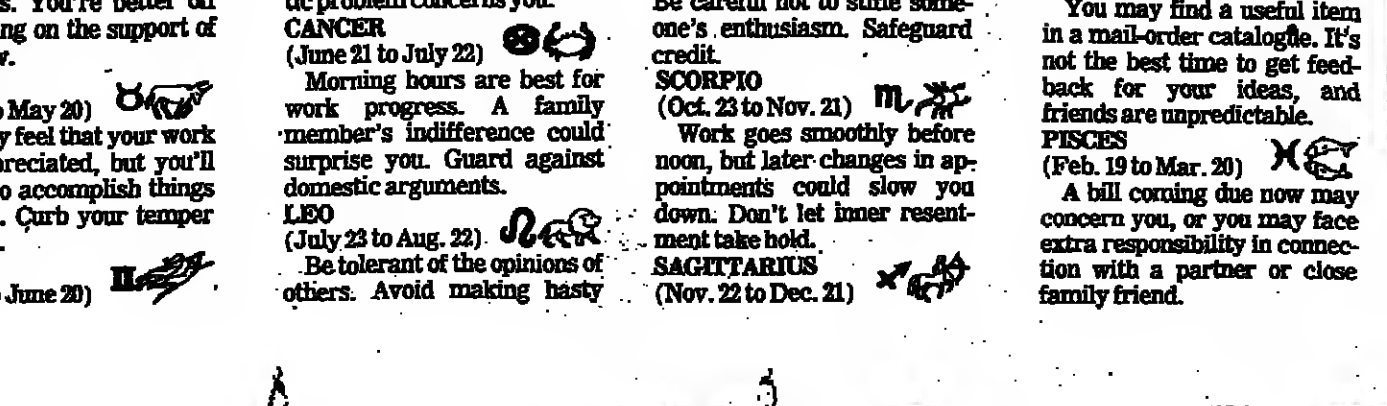
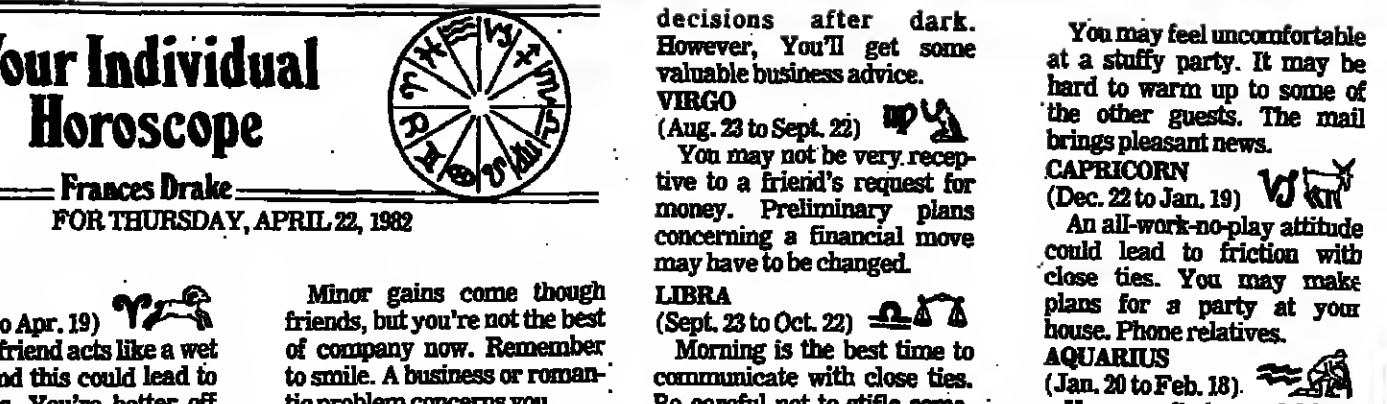
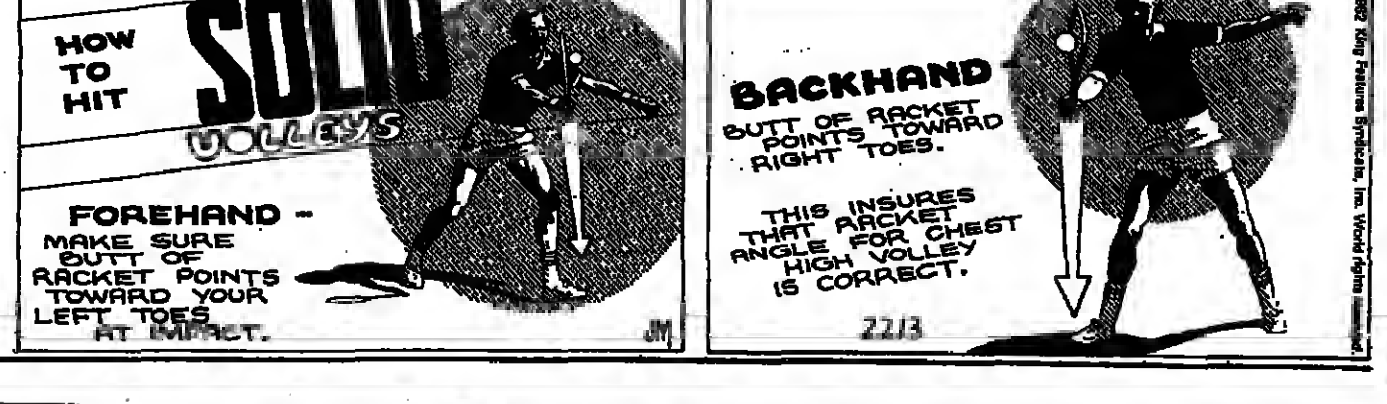
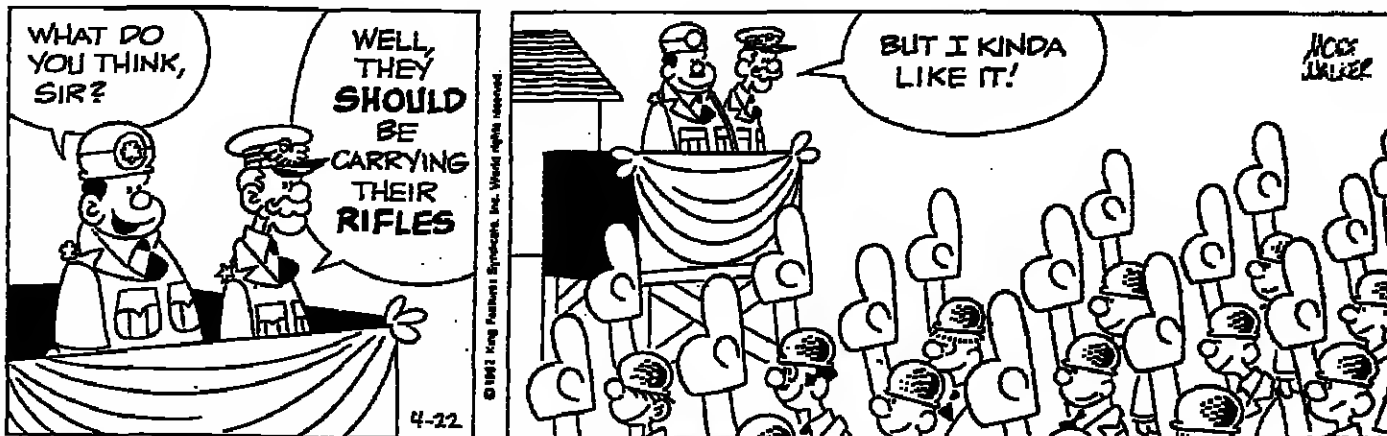
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arab news Calendar

TV Programs	
Saudi Arabia	Jeddah
9:00 Opening	9:00 News
9:05 Islamic Program	9:05 Islamic Program
9:10 Children's Magazine	9:10 Children's Magazine
9:15 Children's Series	9:15 Children's Series
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Crossword

by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

DOWN

1 African lake

2 Dwelling

3 Sabra's dance

4 Florida

5 In the center

6 Bar order

7 Red Baron

8 Float

9 Muhammad

10 statement

11 - esprit

12 German

13 article

14 Brian Boru's

15 land (abbr.)

16 essence

17 "Magic Mountain"

18 author

19 Temptress

20 Reach

21 Corner

22 Jury list

23 Musical note

24 His only

25 begotten -

26 Dance step

27 Female

28 animal

29 Sealed

30 Elliptical

31 Next-to-last

32 syllable

33 Of aircraft

34 Command

35 to a horse

36 Fancet

37 problem

38 Having lips

39 Unending

40 Have pity

41 Moslem

42 prayer call

43 Sky path

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48 Pillar

49 ornament

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51 My Little

52 Girl's Life"

53 Bombay

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56 One kind

57 of nose

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Hapag-Lloyd AG

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(WITH CONTAINERS UNDER EMEC SERVICE)

ON 21-4-1982 (E.T.D. 21-4-1982)

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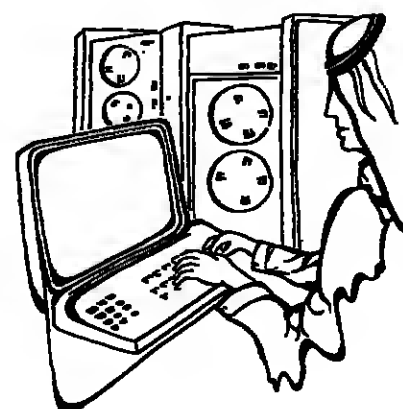
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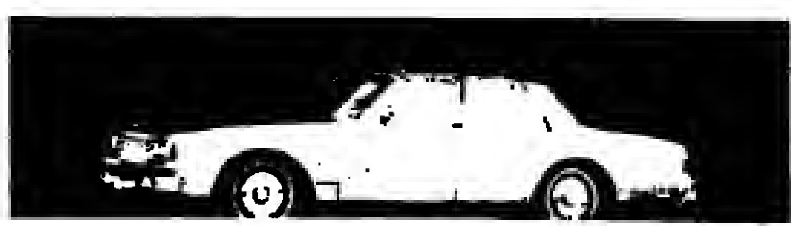
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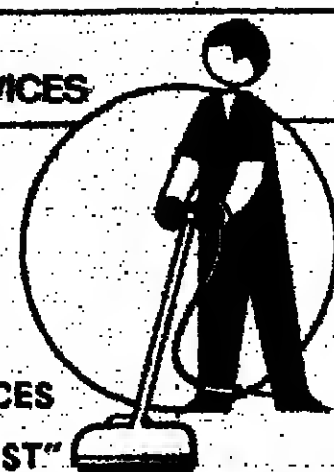
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International

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Italy tries to salvage crumbling coalition

ROME, April 21 (Agencies) — President Sandro Pertini called in leading politicians in a last-ditch effort Wednesday to salvage the crumbling five-party coalition of Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini.

Christian Democrat Party Secretary Flaminio Piccoli told reporters after a half-hour conversation with Pertini that he was hopeful a government collapse could be averted. He gave no hint of any concession to the Christian Democrats' demands for the resignation of Christian Democrat Treasury Minister Nino Andreatta, accused of drawing a link in a party speech between Socialist policies and national socialism.

Socialist leader Bettino Craxi, summoned by the president later, told reporters Pertini had expressed full solidarity in what he termed a disgusting episode. He said he would brief party colleagues on the president's advice at a meeting in which political sources said could pave the way for a Socialist withdrawal from Spadolini's Republican-led but Christian Democrat-dominated administration.

Pressure on Andreatta to step down gained fresh momentum Wednesday and the sources said they did not rule out the possibility that the Christian Democrats would finally sacrifice him. Demands for Andreatta's departure came from the Social Democratic Party, a small but vital element in the coalition.

"Mr. Andreatta would be admired by everybody if he withdrew spontaneously and with dignity," Social Democratic leader Luigi Preti wrote in editorial for his party newspaper, *Unità*. Political sources reported negotiations between the prime minister, Craxi and Piccoli to save the 10-month-old government, Italy's 41st since World War II.

After a morning of frantic comings and goings Spadolini told waiting journalists he had lost hope of saving the government and even managed a joke. "I am returning from the Quirinal (the presidential palace)," he said, grinning broadly, as he left the palace after yet another meeting with President Pertini. In the well-worn ritual of Italian government crises, prime ministers announce their capitulation with the words, "I am going to the Quirinal."

Political sources said Pertini's firm opposition to early elections appeared to be creating a more restrained atmosphere.

Hurried telephone consultations between leaders of all five government parties Wednesday morning strengthened the impression that a compromise was being patched together, they said. Such a compromise would probably combine Andreatta's resignation with a clear promise by the Christian Democrats to cooperate in a thorough review of government policies after their party congress, due to be held early next month.

Spadolini's coalition government of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Social Democrats, Liberals and his own tiny Republican Party took office last June after a scandal over a secret Masonic lodge swept Christian Democrat Premier Arnaldo Forlani from power.

A fracture within the coalition would immediately topple the government and President Pertini might have to call early parliamentary elections. Elections are not scheduled to be held until 1984.

2 Irishmen killed in car bomb blast

BELFAST, April 21 (AFP) — Two persons were killed and three, including a policeman, were wounded when a car bomb exploded Tuesday night in the village of Magherafelt, 50 kms east of Belfast, police said here Wednesday. Initially police had put the casualties at one dead and one wounded.

The Magherafelt incident was the sixth in a series of car-bomb explosions in Northern Ireland Tuesday. Six persons, including a policeman, were reported wounded in the earlier incidents, according to latest reports. Police earlier said they had been warned about three of the explosions by telephone callers saying they belonged to the provisional wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

Police believe the blasts were intended to create a climate of insecurity as the first anniversary of the death of Bobby Sands approached. Bobby Sands, elected to Westminster from the cell where he lay dying, was the first of 10 jailed Republicans to die in hunger strikes last year in an effort to gain political prisoner status.

47 Salvadorans 'massacred' by troops

SANSALVADOR, April 21 (AP) — An army patrol entered a village in eastern El Salvador and massacred 47 men, women and children suspected of cooperating with leftist guerrillas, survivors said. Military officials denied the report, Wednesday.

Several foreign journalists were taken by guerrillas to Berrios, a village of seven houses about 29 kms north of San Vicente city, where they were shown what were said to be three graves containing the bodies of the victims.

San Vicente, 200 kms east of San Salvador, is the capital of San Vicente province and the country's fourth largest city. It has also long been a center for guerrilla activity.

People who claimed to be survivors told the journalists there was a gunfight between government soldiers and guerrillas. Then, they said, an army patrol entered Berrios on Sunday morning and killed 47 persons for allegedly cooperating with the guerrillas.

The military, who jointly rule El Salvador in a junta with the Christian Democratic Party, denied responsibility for the killing. "We have said that is a lie," an army spokesman said in San Salvador, referring to claims that an army patrol did the killing.

"What seems true is that a lot of people were killed," said a U.S. Embassy spokesman.

man, who asked not to be identified. "I don't think that there is anything provable about who did it... Under what circumstances they were killed, we don't know."

Guerrillas and villagers, who requested anonymity, told the reporters one grave contained 30 bodies, another 16 and a third a single body. They gave no other details. The journalists asked not to be identified by name for reasons of personal security.

One reporter who saw the village said, "there are clothes, food, everything — except people." He said almost all the survivors fled the community.

One witness said on previous occasions people gave the soldiers to eat when they came through. She said the villagers also gave the guerrillas food — because they were helping "the people." She said more than half the village population was killed Sunday.

A 10-year-old girl told reporters about the tragedy. She said she had been making coffee when the soldiers arrived. "They arrived there and one told my father, 'go, all of you get in line to be killed,'" said the girl, who identified herself only as Mercedes.

She said another soldier contradicted the first soldier and said, "oo, we will not do

anything, and I remained there thinking that what they wanted was to kill them."

The girl said that when the shooting started, "I went crazy. I did not look at the people. I only looked that they were shooting. I saw that they were shooting at a group of children and I, in the middle of shooting, went away to the heights (the hills)."

Meanwhile, the U.S. administration Tuesday offered to assist in negotiations to bring some of El Salvador's leftist insurgent groups into a political process now under way there. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Stephen Bosworth announced the offer to testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in Washington.

"We for our part believe that mechanisms could be found to facilitate the entry of these groups into the democratic process," he said in his prepared statements. "We will be prepared to be of assistance in the discussions or negotiations which might be required."

But he said the administration remained opposed to direct negotiations with insurgent groups on giving them a share of power in El Salvador outside the election process. Bosworth did not specify which guerrilla groups might make peace, and did not say what sort of "mechanisms" might bring them into the political process.

U.S. firm on halting 'Soviet expansionism'

NEW YORK, April 21 (AP) — Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has said the United States "must be prepared to halt and seek to reverse the geographic expansion of Soviet control and military presence," particularly where U.S. and allied vital interests are threatened.

Weinberger did not say how the United States would go about doing this in his speech prepared for the Council on Foreign Relations, Tuesday.

"Emboldened by America's post-Vietnam paralysis and its own increased military capabilities, the Soviet Union has pushed its traditional policy of global expansionism to a new dimension in recent years," Weinberger said.

His speech was aimed at countering what he called "misconceptions" about U.S. defense policy. Summing up the Reagan administration's defense objectives, Weinberger said, "we seek to deter Soviet aggression against the United States and its allies by maintaining the capability to respond effectively at the lowest possible level of violence."

Defending the administration's record military expansion program, Weinberger said, "the cost of countering the expansion of Soviet military power must inevitably reflect the magnitude of the Soviet effort." This administration program, he said, sends "a clear signal to the Soviets that they cannot start a conflict in the hopes of outlasting the United States."

He said the Soviet Union, which he called the only imperialist power on earth, was now in the fifth generation of nuclear missile production and their missiles had "a higher degree of accuracy than ours." He added: "We have a great deal of evidence that the

Soviets are increasingly coming to believe that a nuclear war is winnable. This is a new factor."

While echoing President Ronald Reagan's assertion that the Soviets have achieved a "margin of superiority" in nuclear weapons, Weinberger said, "we do not seek to restore U.S. nuclear superiority. We want to gain deterrent stability. 'We are not seeking merely to accumulate more destructive power.'"

In reviewing what he said is the global reach of Soviet power, Weinberger said among other things that "we must... find ways to curb the growth of the Soviet military presence in Cuba." Here, again, he did not elaborate on how this might be done.

Weinberger made no mention of the growing anti-nuclear movement in Western Europe and the United States, as dramatized by the "Ground Zero" observances being

Reagan offers 2 summits on arms

WASHINGTON, April 21 (R) — President Ronald Reagan offered to hold a full summit as well as a separate meeting on arms control with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev. Both leaders have called for top-level talks this year but at different times and venues.

Reagan said two weeks ago he would address a United Nations disarmament conference in New York in mid-June and called on Brezhnev to join him here for a meeting on arms control. Brezhnev responded last week with a proposal for a full summit in neutral Finland or Switzerland in the autumn.

Speaking at an informal press conference at the White House rose garden, Reagan

conducted in the United States this week.

However, he said that Reagan "is so right when he says a simple freeze now would leave the Soviets ahead in strategic capability."

As he has before, Weinberger stressed that "we have taken steps to deemphasize our reliance on nuclear weapons" — steps such as strengthening U.S. conventional forces.

More directly than he has since becoming defense secretary, Weinberger laid heavy blame on former President Jimmy Carter for U.S. military strength slippage. He spoke of "the Carter years of indecision, vacillation and weakness." He also appeared to take a shot at former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in speaking of "those ideologues of détente who, contrary to all evidence, persisted in the illusion that the United States was driving the arms race and that we would persuade the Soviets into restraint by kindly conversations and cultural or trade exchanges."

Tuesday reiterated his proposal that his first meeting with Brezhnev should be held in New York. "I still hope it will come," he said. He added: "We can have a meeting and not in any sense would that replace a later full summit meeting... with adequate preparation."

Brezhnev, 75, has been out of public view for several weeks, officially resting. There have been unconfirmed reports, denied by Kremlin officials, that he suffered a mild stroke recently. Reagan repeated his conviction that the Soviet Union had an edge in nuclear weapons and said a freeze on nuclear arms would leave the United States in a position of military inferiority.

Jaruzelski meets with Hungarians

BUDAPEST, Hungary, April 21 (Agencies) — Polish leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski met Wednesday with Hungarian Communist Party and government leaders during his fourth visit abroad since he declared martial law Dec. 13.

State radio noted that the previous three visits resulted in "strengthening of friendship and cooperation" between Poland and its allies, a formula reflecting Poland's return to Soviet bloc orthodoxy under martial law. The radio also emphasized economic cooperation.

Gen. Jaruzelski was met at the airport by Hungarian Communist Party leader Janos

Kadar, Prime Minister Gyorgy Lazar and other officials, the official MTI news agency reported.

Hungary, which encourages some private enterprise, is one of the most prosperous nations in the Soviet bloc. Newspaper reports in advance of the visit emphasized the economy angle of the talks.

Meanwhile, on the eve of the eighth plenum of the Polish United Workers' Party's central committee, the Soviet Union has renewed its support for Jaruzelski against dogmatists accusing him of acting too late against the independent Solidarity trade union.

Mitterrand acts to avert cabinet split

PARIS, April 21 (AFP) — President Francois Mitterrand Wednesday moved to head off what threatened to become a major split between Socialist cabinet ministers and said he had asked the government to repeal the previous administration's law on security and liberty. "One does not correct a bad law, one repeals it," he said Wednesday at a weekly cabinet meeting.

The previous law, the brainchild of former Justice Minister Alan Peyrefitte was bitterly attacked by the then Socialist opposition when it passed through the National Assembly in 1980, thanks to the right's in-built majority.

After their electoral victory in June last year the Socialists promised to redraft the law. But over the last few weeks a row developed between Interior Minister Gaston Defferre and Justice Minister Robert Badinter over how to reform it.

Defferre wanted the police given even greater powers than they had under the Peyrefitte legislation. He suggested police should be able to open fire on suspects who ignored a first police warning to give themselves up. Badinter, a former advocate and committed opponent of the death penalty, was the architect of the recently approved legislation abolishing the guillotine in France.

The dispute between the two hit the headlines last week when President Mitterrand was away from France on an official visit to Japan. Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy attempted to pour oil on the troubled cabinet waters in an interview with *Le Monde* newspaper by defending his ministers' right to an independent opinion and said that the government "must participate in public discussion and even add to it."

But the prime minister's interview was disowned by senior Socialist Party officials. Socialist Party first secretary Lloel Jospin said it was not desirable for every minister to give lengthy diatribes on his own private beliefs. Even Communist Civil Service Minister Anicet Le Pors, without actually criticizing Mauroy emphasized the importance of "government unity." President Mitterrand acted to achieve just that and at the same time emphasized his entire confidence in his prime minister.

Good Morning

By Jihad Al-Khazem

The theater of the absurd, you'll be surprised to know, is still with us. Except it is no longer theater but jumped across the footlights into life.

If you don't believe me, consider this story: something called the Kari Marx Company in the United States has gone to court with claims against the Soviet Union totaling around \$600 million. What's this, you might ask. The founder of it all coming back to sue for damages to his name, so freely used by the Soviets to justify their policies? Is old Engels there, hidden behind the word 'Company', egging him on so that all the old financial wrangles between the two are at last settled?

Well, no. The company, it turns out, is a well known financial institution in Wall Street, and its problem is that several of its clients (and/or inheritors from clients) have bought Russian government bonds at the time of the Czar. The deal was struck in 1916, with the Russians realizing the full value of their issue. The Bolsheviks denied all responsibility for the bonds, which now, with the interest accrued over the years, amount to the sum claimed by the company.

The problem has been simmering for a long time. But now it looks that the case is being reopened in earnest, with the Russians looking distinctly worried that they might have to cough up.

What Marx would think of a company using his own name to sue his own followers is anybody's guess. And my guess is that those thoughts would be couched in some extremely elementary and probably unprintable German.

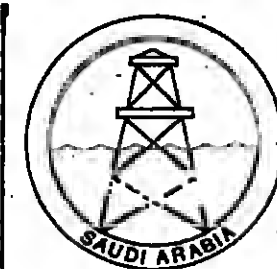
Translated from Ashraf Al-Awsat

Russian expelled

STOCKHOLM, April 21 (AFP) — Sweden has asked Moscow to recall the Soviet vice consul in Stockholm, Albert Liepa, for engaging in "illegal activities." The Swedish Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. A spokesman said the Soviet vice consul was involved in "illegal activities in Sweden, which are incompatible with his status."

The newspaper *Dagens Nyheter* said Liepa infiltrated Latvian groups exiled in Sweden in order to pass on information about dissidence in the Baltic republic to Soviet authorities. The Soviet charge d'affaires in Stockholm was summoned to the Foreign Ministry Tuesday, where he was told it would be preferable if Liepa left Sweden as soon as possible.

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